Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-90-204 *22 October 1990*

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Reportage on 84th IPU Conference in Urugway

Conference Resolution Issued

PY2010180090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1605 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Punta del Este (Uruguay), 20 Oct (EFE)—Today the 84th Interparliamentary Union [IPU] Conference approved, after a week of debate, a resolution condemning Iraq for invading Kuwait and for the systematic persecution, torture, and murder of Kuwaiti people. The Resolution also supports UN efforts and expresses hope that once the Middle East conflicts are overcome, the arms buildup will be reduced.

The full text of the resolution reads as follows:

"The 84th IPU Conference,

1. Deeply concerned about the invasion and subsequent annexation of Kuwait by Iraq,

2. Noting that this act of aggression, which challenges the existence of a sovereign state, represents a disruption of international peace and security,

3. Stressing the need to end this occupation and re-establish Kuwait's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity,

4. Declaring its respect for the essential principles of the Union: the peaceful solution of international disputes, not resorting to the use or threatening the use of force, not meddling in the domestic affairs of other states, and respecting the territorial integrity of states,

5. Condemning Iraq's use of foreign citizens as hostages in Iraq or Kuwait, and recalling the main legal and universal and essential principles established in several international instruments—especially the Fourth Geneva Convention (1979) and the International Agreement on Civilian and Political Rights (1966)—which are valid everywhere and under any circumstances,

6. Noting and condemning the systematic persecution, torture, and mass murder of the Kuwaiti people by Iraqi troops in an effort to intimidate and eliminate the legitimate citizenry, to change the demographic nature of the country, and to threaten the current border states and the geopolitical balance in the region,

7. Protesting the Iraqi Government's inhumane treatment of foreign workers and their relatives, especially the 300,000 workers from Asia, Africa, and Latin America,

8. Noting with satisfaction the significant role played by Jordan, Iran, and Turkey, which are hosting these workers, an act that calls for financial assistance from the international community,

9. Rejecting Iraqi aggression against diplomatic missions and personnel accredited in Kuwait, including the abduction of foreign citizens and their families who were in these missions, which goes against the terms of the Vienna Convention of 18 April 1961 on diplomatic relations and the Vienna Convention of 1963 on consular relations,

10. Ensuring its full support for UN efforts to guarantee respect for international laws and find a solution to this conflict.

The 84th IPU Conference agrees to:

I. Reject the Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait and call for the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

II. Express its support for a peaceful solution to the conflict to be proposed by the Arab nations and other nations of the region, which must ensure the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and re-establishment of this nations's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

III. Urge all congresses and governments to adopt the necessary measures to prevent the situation from becoming worse, to encourage talks among the involved parties, and to support the nine UN Security Council resolutions by:

- Rejecting the invasion of Kuwait and demanding the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops (660).

- Declaring an embargo against Iraq and Kuwait (661).

- Declaring illegal and null the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait (662).

- Demanding that the foreign citizens being held against their will in the country be given immediate permission to leave (664).

- Strengthening naval control of the embargo and planning the use of other methods to implement the UN Security Council resolutions (665).

- Regulating the supply of emergency food assistance (666).

- Condemning Iraqi attacks on diplomatic missions and personnel accredited to Kuwait, demanding the release of foreign citizens, and urging Iraq to comply with its international obligations (667).

- Requesting that the commission in charge of implementing the embargo examine emergency requests—in accordance with the terms of Article 50 of the UN Charter—which may be presented by nations whose economies are affected by these sanctions (669).

- Increasing the scope of the embargo so that it also includes air control (670).

IV. Requests that all parliaments—in cooperation with their governments—strictly apply all terms related to the embargo that are contained in the resolutions, mainly to prevent any possible violation of the embargo.

V. Calls special attention to Paragraph Four of UN Security Council Resolution 666, which states that special attention

should be given to the category of people particularly liable to suffering, such as children under 15 years of age, pregnant women, maternity cases [casos de maternidad], sick people, and older people. In this sense, [the IPU] supports the European Parliament resolution of September 1990 requesting that the embargo not include the supply of foodstuffs and medicines necessary for the survival of the civilian population, supplies which must be supervised by international humanitarian organizations.

VI. Requests that foreign troops based in the Gulf region, at the request of those countries whose territorial integrity is at stake and on the instructions of the Security Council, withdraw as soon as the UN resolutions have been fulfilled.

VII. Expresses its firm belief that, once the terms of the pertinent UN resolutions have been completely fulfilled, the United Nations should sponsor an international conference with the participation of all parties involved to pave the way to a definite and complete solution to all problems in the region, including the crisis in Lebanon; the Arab-Israeli conflict; the Palestinian peoples' right to self-determination; and the Israeli State's right to have safe and guaranteed borders. Such conference should contribute to a new peaceful order for all states and people in the region.

VIII. Voices hope that once these conflicts have been solved, a mutually agreed upon reduction of arms will take place in the Near and Middle East, in order to safeguard stability and allow for the development of the entire region.

IX. Requests the Iraqi parliamentarians attending the 84th conference inform the Iraqi authorities about this resolution."

Iran Hits Iraq, U.S. Policy

LD2010115990 Tehran IRNA in English 1028 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Punta del Este, Uruguay, Oct. 20, IRNA - A top ranking Iranian official here friday said that colonialism, imperialism and Zionism will be terminated by the end of the century, as such was the case with communism.

Majlis deputy from Tehran and head of the Iranian delegation to the 84th interparliamentary union (IPU) meet, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami made the remark in the fifth session here Friday.

He condemned the Iraqi military aggression on Kuwait and added that military presence of the U.S. and NATO forces in the Persian Gulf region was a vivid proof to their disrespect for international regulations and territorial integrity of the regional states.

He also read a message from Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Karrubi stating that Iran will stand against any bullying which threatens the security of the strategic Persian Gulf region.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashami also presented Iran's proposal to the IPU meet on ending the disputes and clashes in the region. Among other things the proposal calls for unconditional withdrawal of American and NATO forces from the region, ending the Zionist entity and formation of a Palestinian government.

The proposal also demands unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and settlement of the disputes through negotiations.

Meanwhile, the Iranian delegation left the session in protest of a speech by the representative of the Zionist regime who was later forced to stop after strong protest of Iraqi and other Arab representatives.

Cuba Requests Iraqi Withdrawal

PY1910185590 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1805 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text]Punta del Este, Uruguay, 19 Oct (EFE)—Today at the 84th meeting of the Interparliamentary Union, Cuba called upon Iraq to put an end to its occupation of Kuwait as a first step toward the withdrawal of the forces that have been deployed in the Persian Gulf by several countries.

In an address today, Zoila Benitez de Mendoza, vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, requested "a just and political solution for the Persian Gulf conflict."

"The consequences of the conflict are negatively affecting the world economy, especially the Third World countries," Benitez said.

Cuba proposes an end to the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, which was invaded on 2 August, as a prior step to resolving the crisis. This step must be followed by the restoration of the sovereignty of Kuwait, and finally the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the region.

The president of the Cuban delegation to this meeting added that "respect for international law must be called for in other Middle East problems: U.S. support for the Israeli Government, which on a daily basis represses the Palestine people, must also cease."

She also referred to what she called "the criminal economic blockade that was imposed on Cuba more than 30 years ago when it simply exercised the rights of a sovereign state."

"We especially condemn," she stressed, "the U.S. presence on the Guantanamo base, a piece of Cuban territory usurped and maintained against the will of our people."

More than 1,000 legislators from 100 countries have been meeting in the Uruguayan town of Punta del Este since 15 October within the framework of the 84th Interparliamentary Union Conference. The conference closes on 20 October.

Endara, Calderon Address Vice Presidents Meeting

PA2110023890 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 18 Oct 90 p 1

[Report by Maricarmen Sarsanedas]

[Text] In inaugurating the meeting of Central American vice presidents, Panamanian President Guillermo Endara asked that regimes that come to power as the result of coups or electoral fraud should not be recognized. He also asked the Central American countries to unanimously reject those who deny or frustrate the sovereign will of their people.

Panamanian Vice President Ricardo Arias Calderon stated in his speech that Central American integration must serve as a means of development and a path to improve the quality of life, since we are not working just to pay the enormous foreign debt but to pay the shocking social debt we owe our own people.

Addressing the top-ranking Central American representatives, Arias Calderon stressed that without participation and without a shared identity of our own no integration will be possible. Therefore, it becomes necessary to base our fundamental political decisions on "the priorities which we have in common," and to conduct pragmatic discussions on agreements that are mutually beneficial and useful, and that seek to complement our national economies. Arias Calderon included in the agenda for integration topics, such issues as regional commerce, a study of the opportunities presented by President George Bush's Initiative for the Americas, joint use of the possibilities afforded by the new Japanese foreign policy, and the opportunities of cooperation that exist with Asian countries.

The Panamanian vice president stressed that integration is not a remote objective that will be decided fortuitously, but a path that unfolds as it goes along. "We cannot stand idly waiting for history, but, now that we live in a democracy, we are going out to meet it with vigor, hope, and a sense of pragmatism."

Attending the Central American forum are Costa Rican Vice President German Serrano Pinto, Guatemalan Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicolle, Nicaraguan Vice President Virgilio Godoy, Honduran Vice President Jacobo Omar Hernandez, and Salvadoran Vice President Jose Francisco Merino. Panama is participating as an observer on this occasion.

Joint Declaration Issued

PA2110214390 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0106 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Panama City, 18 Oct (ACAN-EFE)— The Central American vice presidents today asked the Salvadoran guerrilla groups to "give up violence," and they expressed their "full support" for Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani and his "efforts to find a peaceful and democratic solution" to the Salvadoran conflict.

Upon conclusion of a two-day meeting in Panama City, the vice presidents of the six countries in the isthmus issued a declaration deploring "the persistent acts of aggression" in El Salvador and warning the guerrilla groups that violence "precludes the search for a firm and durable peace."

The declaration of support to Cristiani occurs less than 24 hours after the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) launched a spectacular attack against the main Air Force installations in San Salvador.

Vice Presidents Ricardo Arias Calderon (Panama), German Serrano (Costa Rica), Roberto Carpio (Guatemala), Roberto Martinez (Honduras), Francisco Merino (El Salvador), and Virgilio Godoy (Nicaragua) also expressed "their great concern over the imminence of a large-scale conflict in the Persian Gulf."

The final communique issued at the meeting states its solidarity with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations on the Persian Gulf crisis and notes that the latter "is gravely affecting us, although it has not degenerated into an open war."

"If (the war) occurs, it will have devastating consequences for the world economy and will seriously jeopardize Central America's possibilities of achieving stability and development," the vice presidents warned.

The declaration congratulates Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev for receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, and states its hope that U.S. President George Bush's "Initiative for the Americas" has been "issued in an effort to effectively support Latin America's economic and social development."

The vice presidents also welcome "with special pleasure Panama's decided participation" in the Central American integration efforts.

"We expect Panama to be admitted as an observer in the Central American Parliament in the near future," the declaration adds.

The document likewise reasserts "the need to increase the international community's cooperation" with the countries in the isthmus "to strengthen our democratic processes."

Canada Slates Funds for West Indian Commission

FL2010122090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1911 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 19, CANA—The Caribbean Community [Caricom] secretariat and the Government of Canada on Friday signed an agreement to provide Cdn 400,000 dollars for the support of the Independent West Indian Commission.

"The funds provided by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will be used to assist the Independent West Indian Commission in setting up its

secretariat in Barbados and in the preparation of a report to the Caribbean Community heads of government on its findings," the Canadian high commission here reported.

The agreement was signed in Guyana, where the Caricom secretariat is based. The commission, composed of 15 eminent West Indians, was set up to strengthen the Caribbean Community and deepen the integration process through public consultation and involvement of the peoples of Caricom.

IMF Said To Limit Economic Freedom in Region

FL2010181590 Bridgetown CANA in English
1720 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 20, CANA—Former Barbados Central Bank governor, Dr. Courtney Blackman, has taken a crack at the International Monetary Fund, saying the worse thing that could happen to a country was calling in the Washington-based institution to direct its economic programme. Dr. Blackman made the comment during a symposium here this week to mark the 25th anniversary of the Bank of Guyana.

He said a sound balance of payment position is the only defence against the loss of economic freedom and will serve as a safeguard against the International Monetary Fund (IMF) coming in and telling a country what to do. This, he asserted, was "the worst thing that can happen to a state."

"What will save us," he told the delegates, "are the combined efforts of a lot of very hard-working people with courage and, above all, with humility."

The international business consultant listed a number of "truths" which he said are based on the region's past experience:

—there is a limit to what the state can do for citizens;

—the strategy of self-reliance for small states "is not in the works at all and it has never been;"

—the creation of new jobs rests on the expansion of the private sector which will have to create the surplusses lest we get poorer and poorer;

—the human resource is the most productive resource available and it is most productive in conditions of freedom and democracy; and

—the peoples of the Caribbean have no choice but to pursue economic integration "because that will give us a chance, as a critical mass, to survive in this very difficult world."

Experts Debate Environmental Awarness in Region

FL2010184690 Bridgetown CANA in English
1811 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Oct 20, CANA—A Barbadian environmental expert said here on Saturday that the environment should be an integral part of the development process of the Caribbean.

"In all development activities, whether agriculture, tourism, or industry, the environment should feature prominently," Dr. Mark Griffith suggested.

Griffith, head of the Barbados Environmental Unit, told CANA [CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY]: "We need as a region to be more aware of the importance of the environment to development and with the mass media, the people of the Caribbean are becoming more aware of the importance of the environment.

"As they become more aware I anticipate the political directorate in the region would have to respond.

"I would prefer at this stage if the political directorate would also come to grips with the fact that the environment is important and put mechanisms in place to assist that process in sensitizing the general public."

Dr. Griffith said the major environmental problems in Barbados are coastal erosion and coastal zone management. Bad land planning, soil erosion, drainage, and factory pollution are also problems.

Griffith is attending a Latin American and Caribbean environmental meeting in Trinidad.

Cuba

Castro Attends DPRK Embassy Reception

FL2010125090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, attended a reception last night at the DPRK Embassy on the occasion of the visit by Korean Vice President Kim Tal-hyon. Fidel talked with the delegation led by Kim, who is also minister of foreign trade, and DPRK Ambassador Pak Chung-kuk. Lionel Soto, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba; Ernesto Melendez, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation; and other officials were also present.

Previously Cuba and the DPRK had signed in Havana the protocol of the 14th session of the Economic, Scientific, and Technical Consultation Commission and the protocol for trade between the two nations for 1991. The agreements were signed in the offices of the Ministry of Foreign Trade by Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas and his Korean counterpart, Kim Tal-hyon. Under the agreements, the DPRK will grant our country credits to build a hydroelectric power plant on the Toa and Duaba Rivers. They also include cooperation in building small hydroelectric plants. It was also reported that leader Kim Il-song has given our country the equipment for building a fountain to be used at the opening and closing ceremonies for the Pan-American Games.

Commentary Approves Unconditional Return to OAS

PA2110192690 Havana International Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Oct 90

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] A subject that has been discussed many times in the past was again discussed during the recent summit of the Group of Rio—Cuba's return to the OAS. Cuba was expelled from the OAS in the early sixties because the Cuban Revolution maintained an independent position against the U.S. interventionist policy.

In August, OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares said that Cuba will again be received as a member of the OAS because the suspension of Cuba was a result of a general decision adopted in the sixties. However, the situation in the nineties is different from that of the sixties, he stressed. This is beyond a doubt.

The situation of Latin America and the Caribbean has changed dramatically in all respects, not just because the economic problems have worsened and reached unbearable levels, but also because the mentalities have changed. Currently, one cannot imagine that a country, regardless of how independent its policy may be, can remain isolated from others with which, above all, it should unite.

Latin American nations have suffered for 30 long and painful years the implementation of an imperialist policy that only brought suffering and debt—large debts and widespread poverty. Given this, there is no other alternative for the Latin American countries but to confront these problems united as one.

Upon delivering to the world the historic document entitled the Second Havana Declaration in 1962, Cuban President Fidel Castro said: Cuba and Latin America are part of the world. Our problems are among the problems created by the general crisis of imperialism and the struggle of repressed people.

This has been demonstrated day after day, particularly today, when only concerted economic policies, shared viewpoints, and brotherhood can allow the people of Latin America to face the new imperialist offensive. This offensive, now disguised as a generous initiative, is intended to attain the same goals as always—maintaining the status of tyrannical control.

Notwithstanding the need for Latin America unity, the leadership of the Cuban Revolution has maintained during these 30 years an honorable and cautious position. Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca said not long ago that Cuba will rejoin the OAS only if the countries of Latin America deem Cuba's presence there convenient. We state that if Latin American and Caribbean states deem Cuba's return to the OAS timely, we are willing to accept it and forget the negative past that hindered our relations on the American continent, Malmierca stated.

Cuba views its possible return to the OAS positively, above all, because Latin American nations want it. President Fidel Castro has clearly stated, however, that this possible return to the OAS does not mean that Cuba will leave its principles behind. This means that although changes are taking place in Cuba, they are not the same as those that are taking place in some East European countries.

If anyone wants to impose unwanted reforms on Cuba as a condition for probable reinstatement into the OAS, Cuba will not accept it. Without budging one inch from its principles, Cuba values the recent statements by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, that Latin American countries want to reinstate Cuba to the OAS to end a 30- year absence. This would confirm Fidel Castro's words in the Second Declaration of Havana: The forces that impel the people, who are the true builders of history, are more powerful than the wishes and terror of the ruling oligarchies.

Commentary Examines Regional Economies, Debt

PA2110041790 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Oct 90

[Ramon Chong commentary]

[Text] The per capita gross national product of most poor and developing Latin American countries is now

back to what it was 10 years ago, and in some African countries to what it was 20 years ago. This fact makes the general condemnation of the somber consequences of the foreign debt even more valid. Since the 1980's, 61 percent of the world's population has had no access to health services and the standard of living has deteriorated.

The Economic Commission for Latin America has just reported that inflation, foreign debt, stabilization programs, and structural reforms have produced a 13-per cent drop in per capita consumption since last year. The report notes that this percentage is just a mathematical figure that does not portray the critical situation that affects large sectors of the population. It also states that this situation will persist in most of the countries of the region. The report further notes that records indicate 183 million Latin Americans were living in poverty last year and an additional 84 million were living at below-poverty level.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization has grieved that there are 500 million people in the world who suffer from chronic malnutrition and that millions of children die annually for lack of food and medical attention.

It is in this context that the United States has presented its so-called Initiative for the Americas. Osvaldo Riestra, of the Cuban Research Center for World Economy [Centro Cubano de Investigaciones de la Economia Mundial], comments on this.

[Begin Riestra recording] The Initiative for the Americas announced by U.S. President George Bush some months ago does not include as many new ideas as the propaganda that has accompanied the announcement would make us try to believe. The Initiative for the Americas talks about writing off $12 billion. This is the official Latin American debt with the United States, but $12 billion compared with the $400 billion total that Latin America owes is an insignificant amount, especially if we realize that not $12 billion but only $7 billion will be written off in connection with the initiative.

Regarding investments, there is an opening process that many Latin American governments, burdened by financial problems, have been implementing, and in an effort to lighten that burden they are permitting the influx of foreign capital.

U.S. investors—enterprises and multinational banks—will be the ones to benefit the most from this because they will say in what sectors they want to invest, and this will not necessarily be in areas that suit the Latin American countries best.

This is what we can say in general terms of the Initiative for the Americas, which in spite of propaganda is mostly vague and rhetorical. We will have to keep a close watch on it to see how approval in the United States takes place and how it is implemented later. [end recording]

DAAFAR Helicopter Crash, Casualties Reported

FL1910154090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1451 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] The Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces reports that at 2116 hours [0216 GMT] on 17 October a DAAFAR [Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force] MI-8T helicopter on a combat training mission crashed into the ocean. The accident occurred 2 km south of Playa Cajio, Batabano. The pilot Captain Francisco Conrado Ferreira Santos, copilot Captain Adalberto Castro Jimenez, and First Lieutenant Victor Jose Quesada Montesinos lost their lives [words indistinct]. The search continues for flight mechanic Lieutenant Damian Torres Garcia, who is missing.

Engineer Lieutenant Alfredo Idonis Moya Hernandez, parachutist NCO Angel Rojas Pupo, health worker Sergeant Carlos Ramirez Cintra, and Private Jorge Luis Iglesias Gomez were seriously injured. Private Angel Luis Mora Alonzo, Private Fidel Rey Ortiz, and Private Ramon Salazar Delgado were slightly injured. All those injured are being treated at the Doctor Luis Diaz Soto Higher Institute of Military Medicine and the Doctor Carlos J. Findlay Hospital. A DAAFAR commission is investigating the causes of the accident.

Malmierca Meets With Ghana's Rawlings, Asamoah

FL1910184590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Ghanaian Head of State Jerry Rawlings has met with Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca in Accra, the capital of Ghana. They talked about the extensive bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries. The Cuban foreign minister had arrived in Ghana on 16 October for a five-day visit. It is imperative for Havana and Accra to identify more areas for cooperation, the Cuban foreign minister said to the press. He also referred to a call soon for a meeting of the Cuba-Ghana Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation. Yesterday Malmierca also met with Ghanaian Foreign Minister Dr. Obed Asamoah and other local officials. During the meeting, the two foreign ministers exchanged opinions about the international situation, bilateral relations, regional problems, and matters concerning the Nonaligned Movement.

Comments on U.S. Relations

FL2010004490 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0002 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca met for 2 hours yesterday with Ghanaian Head of State Jerry Rawlings. The two discussed ways to intensify bilateral relations. Malmierca arrived in Accra, the capital of Ghana, on Tuesday, for a 5-day official visit.

In statements to the press, Malmierca said that in the present international situation, it is more important than

ever to increase cooperation among developing countries. Malmierca said that Cuba's difficulties, resulting from a decline in trade with East Europe, could affect this country's international commitments. However, he added that some 25,000 Third World students who are currently in Cuba, including students from Ghana, will not be returned to their respective countries.

With regard to relations with the United States, Malmierca reiterated Cuba's readiness to hold unconditional talks with that country. He also denounced the multilateral embargo imposed on Cuba by the United States for the past three decades, and stated that our country will not relinquish the socialist option for development.

Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Concludes Visit

FL2010015590 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Dr. Nathan Shamuyarira has left for Ghana after completing an official good-will visit to Cuba.

During his visit to Cuba, the largest island of the Antilles, Dr. Shamuyarira participated in official talks with Isidoro Malmiera, his Cuban counterpart. The talks took place in a climate of friendship. He also talked with Carlos Aldana, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba.

Corrieri Hernandez Appointed ICAP President

FL1910131590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Sergio Corrieri Hernandez, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, has been appointed president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship With the Peoples [ICAP] after a proposal made by the Secretariat to the Politburo. The outstanding theater, movie, and television actor has been a deputy to the National Assembly, and at the second party congress he was appointed an alternate member of the Central Committee. At the third congress he was then elected a full member. Now Sergio Corrieri will hold the presidency of the ICAP, an organization created in 1960 to promote relations between our people and the other peoples of the world.

Barbados

Venezuelan Delegation Grants Oil Concessions

FL1910234590 Bridgetown CANA in English 2219 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 19, CANA—A five-member Venezuelan delegation held talks with senior Barbadian Finance and Foreign Ministry officials here Friday.

Diplomatic sources said the talks focused on an arrangement between Venezuelan/Costa Rica [as received] and Caribbean, as well as, Central American nations to provide oil on concessional terms. [Words indistinct] Gloria Mirt and Alberto Valero.

Other members are Mario Guglielmelli, an official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Jenny Zavarce, a representative of the Venezuelan Investment Fund, and Mrs. Nellie Pereira from the Venezuelan Oil Company.

The delegation leaving here on Saturday is focusing on the impact felt in the region from the rise in the price of oil generated by the Persian Gulf crisis. It is briefing governments on new arrangements on the San Jose concesionary oil agreement.

Under the concessions, Barbados, Jamaica and other beneficiaries get part of their oil bill converted into long-term loans for development projects.

Dominican Republic

Balaguer Rejects Demands for Resignation

FL1910160090 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Report on remarks by President Joaquin Balaguer in Santo Domingo; date not given]

[Excerpt] President Joaquin Balaguer has stated tha he will not resign. Interviewed while he was presiding over the opening of a housing project in the Guachupita District in Santo Domingo, Dr. Balaguer indicated that those who have demanded his resignation are political actors who lack moral authority after having gone down in defeat during the May elections.

[Begin Balaguer recording] The voices that have been raised to demand my resignation, including those in the National Congress, are voices without moral authority. They lack moral authority because they come from political [word indistinct] that were defeated in the recent elections. Many of them have suffered the ridicule of being defeated after they publicly proclaimed that their election had been certified by the [Central Electoral] Board. [end recording]

After repeating that he will not resign, President Balaguer asked the people to maintain confidence in his government, as it is working to solve the problems confronting them.

[Begin Balaguer recording] Have faith, have faith. We are working to resolve the Dominican crisis, because this government is determined to resolve this crisis, and the crisis will be resolved. It will be resolved satisfactorily. What is needed is simply for everyone to contribute to the resolution of the crisis, to leave behind a bit of the desire for profits, the thirst for riches, the lack of confidence in the country and its institutions. Here there have been many Dominicans who have packed their bags and gone to live overseas with relatives. These defeatists are those who [words indistinct] of the country, those

who have never had confidence in its institutions. They are not true Dominicans. All true Dominicans live here near (?the sun). [end recording]

President Joaquin Balaguer has also acknowledged that his government is behind in paying considerable debts to international credit organizations. According to the president, the crisis in turning in the dollars the country generates is what is preventing it from meeting its international economic obligations. [passage omitted]

Basic Goods To Be Sold at Discount Prices

FL1910170190 Santo Domingo Radio-Tele ision Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] The main agricultural and manufactured products that make up the family market basket will be sold at a 30-percent discount through the program for direct sales from producer to consumer known as CONAPRO [expansion unknown]. Lilis Tejada, the organization's sales manager, explained that consumers will be able to purchase rice, plantains, potatoes, sugar, beans, milk, cooking oil, and other products at prices below those at supermarkets and other commercial establishments. Tejada stated that CONAPRO has established a marketing system that allows farmers to offer their products directly to consumers.

Haiti

CEP Rejects Claude's Accusations of Partiality

FL1910164590 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 18 Oct 90

["Excerpts" of a letter from the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] to Reverend Sylvio Claude, leader of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party [PDCH], in response to criticism and threats by Rev. Claude; date of letter not given]

[Text] The CEP asks the president of the PDCH, Rev. Sylvio Claude, to calm down and not to get too angry about the relations between the CEP and his own party during the electoral campaign, and to not make unfounded accusations.

At the beginning of the week, the PDCH leader accused the CEP of being involved in backroom dealings, leading the people to another 29 November [election day massacre], and also of standing in the way of PDCH victory in the 16 December elections by requiring an identification card [issued by the government as a tax payment receipt] before registering candidates.

The CEP reminds Rev. Claude that all candidates must pay a guarantee to the General Director of Taxes [DGI], and that no citizen can pay the DGI without an identification card.

In reference to Rev. Claude's accusations of partiality, the CEP explains that this is impossible, and that other candidates understand that the electoral law safeguards all political parties. Should the other parties ever notice anything wrong they have the right to get together with Rev. Claude to ask the CEP to withdraw, and it would not refuse.

The CEP ends the letter by imploring Rev. Sylvio Claude not to frighten the public with threats and insinuations of slaughter in a country where—it is quite evident—justice has no strength. These statements can worry the people. The CEP adds that it invites the PDCH, as well as the other parties, to help it hold elections with respect and in dialogue with the people. In conclusion, the CEP agrees that not everyone will approve of what they do, but that anyone has the right to enforce changes in the CEP.

CEP Official Views Election Preparations

FL2010145990 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Excerpts] According to the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP], more than one million citizens have registered to vote in the forthcoming elections. The numbers surpass those anticipated. According to Jean Casimir, the university representative on the CEP, more facilities for registering are to be opened so that more citizens can register in various locations in the country. [passage omitted]

Casimir is calling on everyone who has not yet registered to do so, because the CEP will not have sufficient time to extend the registration deadline. Referring to irregularities, Casimir states that all data will be computerized, and if people try to cheat, they will be punished in line with the provisions of the electoral law. Casimir feels very confident about security but asks everyone to remain alert and organized in order to insure their own security, as well as the security of people working in Bureaus for Registration and Vote [BIV's]. [passage omitted]

Casimir talked about the approaching signs of trouble that might spoil the elections.

[Begin Casimir recording] We see two approaching and very worrying signs of trouble that might interfere with the elections. I learned this morning, through the media, that one of our BIV's has been set on fire with the perpetrators writing on the walls: Today fire; tomorrow ammunition. [passage omitted] We feel confident, however, that the Army which has promised security, will take the necessary measures to apprehend these people.

The second point is that of verbal violence. There are some people who have changed the tone of their voice. [passage omitted] This fact causes us to worry because we do not want such verbal violence to incite the population to fear or intimidation. We ask all patriotic candidates and everyone who loves the country to hold a real election where ideas, programs, and positions are being addressed. [end recording]

Casimir's remarks on verbal violence refer to statements made last weekend by the Duvalierist sector during their two-day convention, where several political leaders claimed their right to participate in all decisions regarding the country. The Duvalierists stated that they will not agree to withdraw from the elections.

West BED Presents Registered Candidates

FL2010164590 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Excerpt] The West Departmental Electoral Bureau [BED] has sent us a list of the presidential, senatorial, and parliamentary candidates who have officially made their candidacy depositions. The candidates' names and party affiliation are as follows:

Presidential candidates:

Geffrard Pierre Leon Louis II (?born) Dejoie, National Agricultural and Industrial Party [PAIN]

Richard Vladimir Jeanty, Haitian Party of God [Paradi]

Joseph Hubert de Ronceray, Mobilization National Development [MDN]

Marc Antoine Sylvio Claude, Haitian Christian Democratic Party [PDCH]

Jean-Arnold Dumas, National Party for the Defense of the Workers [PNDT]

Pierre Francois Magloire, Party of Haitian Patriots [PPH]

Pierre Jean-Francois Latortue, Democratic Revolutionary Party of Haiti

[MODEL-PRDH]

Senatorial candidates:

Joseph Remus Arboite [as heard] alias Arbrouet, MDN

Salnave Deshommes, PDCH

Inderson Honaise Alfred, PDCH

Parliamentary candidates:

Beatrice Dorfeuille Andre, MDN in the fifth constituency of Carrefour

Maximin Joseph Pierre Casseus, MDN in the sixth constituency of Delmas

Joacin Chrisphonte, MDN in the third constituency of Port-au-Prince

Louis Gesner Rigaud, PDCH in the second constituency of Port-au-Prince

Pierre Jean-Claude Chrisphonte, PAIN in the third constituency of Port-au- Prince

Jean Enar Turenne, MODEL-PRDH in the Arcahaie constituency

Deus Jean-Francois, MDN candidate in the Petit-Goave constituency [passage omitted]

FNCD, PPNH Said To Endorse Aristide

FL1910183090 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Statement by Evans Paul in Port-au-Prince; date not given—recorded]

[Text] Following several meetings held in Port-au-Prince on the political crisis in the country, the Democratic Convergence decided yesterday to choose Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide as their presidential candidate for the forthcoming elections. Following are declarations read by Evans Paul, also known as Kompe Plim, on behalf of the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD], the Movement for the Organization of the Country [MOP], and Bernard Sansaricq's party, the National People's Party of Haiti [PPNH], to officially announce that Father Aristide has been chosen.

[Begin Paul recording] The convocation of the National Democratic Convergence group, Father Antoine Adrien, Gerard Pierre-Charles, Marc Romulus, Reverend Sem Marseille, Frantz Ludeque, and the political parties and fronts that signed this document after several meetings have decided:

1. To adopt a common democratic transition program based on a policy intended to change the traditional Haitian organization of government. The president and all the other citizens who will be elected in the elections under a common banner will commit themselves to implementing this program in the next five years. This program gives a special priority to workers and peasant problems.

2. We have agreed that only one presidential candidate represent the whole democratic sector in the upcoming elections. We have therefore chosen the citizen Jean-Bertrand Aristide to perform this mission as presidential candidate in the 16 December elections.

3. We will present unique candidates at all the other levels [Communal Section, Administration Council; Municipal; Parliamentary; and Senatorial] as far as possible.

4. We will participate together in the forthcoming elections.

5. We will participate in the elections under a common banner.

6. After the elections, we will form a patriotic union government with representatives of all political parties, especially the political parties and fronts that sign this document, as follows:

Evans Paul alias K-Plim, and Turneb Delpe for FNCD

Gesner Como for MOP

Bernard Sansaricq for PPNH [end recording]

PPNH Founder Issues Disclaimer

FL1910184090 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Report by Jean-Elder Almeus in Jeremie]

[Text] Bernard Sansaricq, founder of the National People's Party of Haiti [PPNH] which is also a member of the National Front for Progress and Democracy [FNCD], says in a press release that all kinds of malicious maneuvers are being plotted to break up the FNCD.

Moreover, the PPNH leader said that he never knew or discussed with any political party or personality the possibility of Father Aristide being an FNCD presidential candidate. Sansaricq had just heard his name quoted on radios and television in the capital. He says that he has no knowledge of this report.

State Council Appeals for Resistance to Macoutes

FL1910191090 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In a press release, the State Council implicates the executive and the Army as accomplices with the Duvalierist sector in defying the Justice Department and institutions charged with enforcing the law. The State Council emphasizes that the government's complicity compromises election preparations. They demand that the executive, through the minister of justice, inform the nation regarding Lafontant's case. They demand that the Army also specify clearly and frankly its position on this matter which is dividing public opinion.

The State Council is calling on all supporters of change to set up a barrier against this public emergence of the macoutes. Such unity is the only guarantee for maintaining and broadening what was acquired in February 1986. The Haitian people must also show courage and creativity in this struggle for change, the State Council specifies.

The State Council also expresses a desire for the realization of popular and democratic elections in the presence of justice and security, and invites foreigners, friends of Haiti, to listen to the people's demands in order to understand the deep meaning of the movement since February 1986.

Jamaica

Trade Problems Discussed With USSR Delegation

FL2010152590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1446 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 20, CANA—Jamaica and the Soviet Union have signed a memorandum of understanding for the delivery of bauxite to the Soviets.

Mining and Energy Minister Hugh Small, who signed on behalf of the Jamaica Government Friday, said the final document would not be ready until later this year because there were "outstanding matters relating to the agreement requiring more discussions."

Mining sources told CANA [CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY] that the problem arose because last year the Soviets did not buy any bauxite under an existing agreement. The Jamaica Government is insisting that if the Soviet Union does not take the bauxite it will still have to pay for it. Jamaica currently sells one million wet metric tonnes of bauxite to the Soviet Union each year. In return the Soviet Union exports Lada motor cars to the island.

There are also differences between Jamaica and the Soviets about the level of their bilateral trade. According to R. Anthony Williams of the Jamaica Manufacturers Association, Jamaica sells the Soviets about U.S. 20 million dollars worth of bauxite and buys about U.S. 5 million dollars worth of motor cars. The USSR, he said, wants the gap closed but the Jamaica Government is not keen on this.

The Soviet delegation, comprising members of a Soviet/Jamaica Commission, are here for four days of "intensive (trade) discussions" with their Jamaican counterparts.

Deputy head of the Soviet department of economic relations with Africa and Latin America, S.V. Djachkov, noted during a meeting with representatives of the private sector that trading between the two countries had always been limited to bauxite and motor vehicles as well as some 900 pounds of pimento annually. The Soviet Union, he said, wanted to widen the scope of trading between the two countries. He noted that about 20,000 new firms had mushroomed in the USSR recently, each of which could trade directly on the international market. There was great potential for expansion of trade, he added.

Among the issues discussed by the joint Jamaica/USSR Commission were the settlement of outstanding payments, the resumption of shipments of bauxite, and arrangements for a technical study to be carried out by Kaiser Jamaica on the Nickoli plant in the USSR which processes Jamaican bauxite.

The Soviets have indicated an interest in participating as a joint venture partner in the re-opening of the Lyford mines here once operated by Reynolds Jamaica Mines Limited. The mines were closed in the 1980's during a slump in the world bauxite/alumina market. According to Small, the Soviets will be given a feasibility study of the project which should be completed in November. But there was no set time-table for the re-opening of the mines, he said.

Montserrat

Opposition Set To Exploit Government Crisis

FL2010165590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1550 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Report by Wylsie White]

[Text] Plymouth, Montserrat, Oct 20, CANA—Montserrat's ruling Peoples Liberation Movement party is in trouble, with a rift between Chief Minister John Osborne and his deputy, Benjamin Chalmers. The opposition, exploiting the problem, is heading to Parliament with a no-confidence motion against the government of the tiny British colony.

Chalmers said he was at odds with the chief minister on a number of issues, including Osborne's support for independence from Britain for the 102 square kilometre island of about 12,000 people. Chalmers also complained that Osborne was trying to replace him as the party's candidate in the Northern district in the next general elections, constitutional due in 1992.

"I am a three-time winner and until the people ask me to surrender I cannot support a new candidate," he said. "How can I surrender to a man who has never run or won?"

Charging that Osborne has lost the power of reasoning, Chalmers told CANA [CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY]: "Those whom God doom to fail he takes from them the power of reasoning."

Osborne has not given details of the problem with Chalmers, who is also the communications and works minister. But party sources said Osborne had considered dissolving the Legislative Council in preparation for a snap general election midway in the current term. Osborne changed his mind on the advice of top civil servants and prominent citizens, party officials reported.

They said Osborne was dissatified with the performance of some of his ministers and had made it clear to them at an executive meeting of the party that unless there was improvement he would have to go back to the electorate.

Chalmers, however, said: "I am unaware that ministers of government are performing below expectations." He suggested that with the problems in the party "the best thing for the country at this time is to dissolve the council and set up an interim government for around nine months until general elections can be held." Osborne's party emerged with four seats to the opposition's two in the last poll, in 1987. An independent candidate won the other seat.

The opposition is calling for an early meeting of the Legislative Council to consider a motion of no-confidence in the government it plans to move. Bertrand Osborne, leader of the opposition National Development Party, said in a letter to the speaker of Parliament that "in light of the current chaos in government and open conflict between the chief minister and other ministers of government" an early meeting was needed "to consider a motion of no confidence in government which I would like to move."

The opposition leader said he had learnt of an attempted "coup" in government and that the chief minister had made a decision to dissolve Parliament but changed his mind. In the letter, Osborne asked: "How could this group continue to manage the affairs of the country?" He said: "It is impossible for them to function as our leaders."

Speaker of Parliament, Howard Fergus, is off the island. The opposition's request has reportedly been passed on to Deputy Speaker D.R.V. Frank Edwards.

Costa Rica

New Information Minister Appointed

PA2010190290 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 11 Oct 90 p 4A

[Report by Jose Luis Mora and Mauricio Martinez]

[Excerpt] Costa Rican President Rafael Angel Calderon announced yesterday the appointment of journalist Guillermo Fernandez Rojas as Information and Communication minister.

Fernandez, 40, until yesterday LA NACION's chief editor, had been with the newspaper since 1974.

Upon justifying the appointment after five months in office, the president said that "it is essential that information and communication policies be better coordinated...the people must participate, help, and assist the administration in important matters, and for this it must be informed." [passage omitted]

Soviet TASS Closes San Jose Office

PA1910024590 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0118 GMT 17 Oct 90

[Text] San Jose, 17 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Enrique Mora, director of the Soviet TASS news agency office in Costa Rica, has reported that the agency today closed its office in this Central American country after 30 years of service.

Mora, a Costa Rican journalist, said that the TASS office was always noted for transmitting to Moscow the information on events in Central America "without dogma."

TASS closed its office in Guatemala two years ago due to dynamite attacks and threats against its personnel.

Enrique Mora added that TASS will keep its offices in Panama and Nicaragua open.

El Salvador

Ponce: FMLN Attempting To Justify New Attack

PA2110161890 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 17 Oct 90 p 31

[Text] During a cordial visit to LA PRENSA GRAFICA on 16 October, Defense Minister Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce recounted the human costs of 11 years of war.

He underscored the Army's resolve to continue the peace process and its cooperation in the Jesuit case.

Ponce said that over 9,000 troops have been killed in the conflict, and that no less than 20,000 have been wounded or have otherwise suffered the sequences of war—psychosis and disability.

Ponce pointed out, among other things, President Cristiani's efforts in the dialogue process which the Armed Forces support, citing his recent proposal at the United Nations, which was rejected by the guerrillas.

Although the solution of the conflict is global, FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] leaders insist on violence and are attempting to justify a renewed attack.

The ranking military chief said during the impromptu news conference that terrorist group leaders have already started working internationally through propaganda as a means to obtain some degree of support for their subversive plans, and locally they are promoting strikes, "demonstrations," and other street riots by requesting incredible solutions for problems that currently affect the country and seem to be beyond the authorities' reach.

Ponce referred to the possible solution of the belligerent situation that prevails in El Salvador and underscored that it is an all-encompassing situation and cannot by any means be limited to the military sector, nor can the military be its leading cause as the subversive leaders contend.

Therefore, he explained, the Armed Forces issue is by no means negotiable. Besides all of this, he added, considerable changes are being made at all military levels. The military ranks are being prepared for the current era and for the near future.

Returning to the possibility of the FMLN unleashing new aggression, Ponce admitted that logistic clues have been detected that indicate a new action, and as a result of this, the "safe houses" that the extremist groups have in San Salvador are being investigated to determine if they are storing weapons.

To conclude, Ponce said that although these unconventional groups may manage to bring weapons into the country and unleash attacks against military garrisons and positions, they will not by any means be able to gain political power, because that is what a sufficiently professional and trained Armed Forces is there for—to repel them.

Presidency Minister on Next Round of Negotiations

PA2110200390 San Salvador Radio Cadena Horizonte in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Passages in italics are recorded]

[Text] Presidency Minister Ernesto Altschul has said that the government is willing to negotiate with the moderate wing of the FMLN's General Command. He says that there is serious division at the FMLN's core regarding the handling of the military conflict. Altschul said that the government is interested in having the totality of the FMLN incorporated into the democratic process, but did not rule out the possibility of negotiating with groups, as happened in Colombia, where some of that country's guerrillas were incorporated into political life.

Altschul believes that Commander Joaquin Villalobos heads the hard line and Jorge Shafik Handal the moderate line. The Presidency minister believes that this division prevents advances in the peace negotiations.

[Altschul] *We would like the entire FMLN to be incorporated into the democratic process that the people have chosen as the way to govern, and we believe it is the kind of El Salvador that we all want for the future.*

[Unidentified reporter] *But would you not reject an opening from an isolated sector—if we may call it that—since it would not be acting as the command?*

[Altschul] *We would accept it as we have accepted it on other occasions. You remember that Aguinada Carranza, on one occasion, and Ungo and Zamora, belonged to the, quote, political front, unquote, of the FMLN-FDR [FMLN-Revolutionary Democratic Front]. When they were incorporated into the democratic process, they definitely fit into the political scheme in which we are living, and they are welcome. They are not only welcome, but we even believe that this is healthy for the process.*

The Presidency minister also said that, despite the FMLN's attack against the Ilopango Military Base, President Alfredo Cristiani's government is still willing to go to the next peace meeting scheduled for before 4 November in Mexico.

[Altschul] *Our commitment to attaining peace as announced by the president still stands.*

Presidency Minister Ernesto Altschul also expressed his rejection of the rebels military actions against the Ilopango Military Base, while assuring that the action is within the framework of the political-military dynamics of the rebels, who alternate between democratic postures at the negotiating table and military postures such as of the night of 17 October.

[Altschul] *The rebels global strategy has always been to use political-diplomatic tactics, which always tend to deepen their military strategy. They present a global concept through which they try, for instance, to use the dialogue to project an image of people who seek peace and democracy. The FMLN's real identity, however, is the one shown on the night of 17 October and on 11 November last year, the one they continuously show through terrorism against the civilian population.*

Ernesto Altschul revealed that, during the next round of talks, the government will yield on the issue of the Armed Forces. He did not say, however, on what terms, due to the confidentiality surrounding the negotiating process. Mauricio Burgos reported for Radio Cadena Horizonte.

FMLN: Attack on Air Force Base 'Successful'

PA2110143890 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 20 Oct 90

["War bulletin" issued by the Modesto Ramirez Central Front of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, on the 17 October attack against a Salvadoran Air Force base on 19 October; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] We report to our people that:

1. Breaking through the Army's massive defense system in eastern San Salvador, Soyapango, and San Martin, commando and urban militia groups along with suburban guerrilla and special mobile forces of the FMLN staged a strong and effective attack against Salvadoran Air Force [FAS] installations and other locations in the capital at 2115 [0315 GMT] on Wednesday, 17 October.

2. The operation was directed mainly against the FAS base in Ilopango and the Agua Caliente power substation in Soyapango. There were also many secondary targets to stop massive enemy reinforcements from reaching the various military units in the zone, to seize and control the Northern Trunk Highway, and to deploy antiaircraft weapons.

We report to our people the following confirmed results of this successful operation: Sixteen FAS helicopters were destroyed as a result of the attack on the Ilopango base. The attack was staged from four directions with 27 successful charges with 203mm people's artillery. We repeat: Sixteen FAS helicopters were destroyed. We also inflicted 108 casualties at this important and strategic military base. The Air Force communication center and hangars were also a target of our fire in the attack. We also report to our people that we are waiting for confirmation of the number of pilots who are among the casualties, because our guerrilla fire also hit the pilots' barracks. We must stress that in view of our strong attack, there was chaos among the military personnel, with no one obeying orders. We must also report to our people that the Agua Caliente power substation in Soyapango was hit by 25 RPG-7 rockets fired from one direction.

3. In an attempt to conceal the magnitude of the attack on one of the military units most involved in the violation of human rights over the past 10 years, and therefore the most discredited unit, the government issued a message to the nation over a radio network, trying to minimize the action.

4. We must point out that during the attack on the Ilopango base, not a single aircraft stationed there was able to take off. Only two UH-1H helicopters, which at that time were out on missions, were left active. Two C-47 airplanes arrived from Comalapa to provide support to the base and to enemy ground forces. During the fighting in the outlying areas, our forces attacked Treasury Police positions in the Agua Caliente substation, inflicting eight casualties on the enemy. Although there

was no fighting in Ciudad Delgado, the enemy's low morale was made evident with the desertion of members of the National Guard. A similar attitude was shown by members of the Air Force in the areas of Unicentro, the Los Angeles shopping center [10-second break in reception] where they abandoned their positions without putting up any resistance and fled in disarray.

After making known the results of this successful operation to our people, the FMLN reiterates its resolve to continue and to deepen its struggle, along with the people, for demilitarization and the attainment of democracy.

Commentary on 'Lessons' of 17 Oct Attack

PA2110145290 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Station commentary: "The Lessons From the Attack on the Air Force"]

[Text] A few years ago, it was customary that following a military operation such as the one staged by our guerrilla army on the night of 17 October, both our army and the enemy would militarily and politically assess the action. Much emphasis was placed on the number of casualties, weapons seized, equipment destroyed, troops captured, etcetera. Under the current circumstances, the political factor plays an especially important role. We say this because the enemy is bent on defeating us, not in the military terrain, but in the area of propaganda and psychological warfare.

The government views the negotiating process [with the guerrillas] as a means to wage psychological warfare. It keeps repeating that we are alone in the world, that the people no longer support us, that the armed struggle is no longer possible in the country, and that the best thing we can do is to accept the government's conditions, in other words, that we surrender. The attack on the Air Force installations demolished all the psychological warfare arguments used by the government and the Armed Forces. The lessons from the 17 October military operation are as follows:

1. Regardless of the international geopolitical situation and the electoral results in Nicaragua, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] continues to be a growing military, political, and territorial power.

2. The fact that the attack was staged from densely populated areas in the capital and the fact that, according to the military officers, it was planned many days before, prove that there was support from the people. The published reports indicate that nearby residents knew for nearly a month that something was being planned. The only ones who did not know were the soldiers.

3. The use of homemade armaments in combination with manufactured weapons clearly shows that the FMLN has sufficient logistical reserves to wage war for however long is necessary.

4. The participation of new forces shows the growth in the FMLN's human resources and the decision of thousands of Salvadorans to take up arms to attain full democracy.

In conclusion, the FMLN is an authentically Salvadoran political, military, and territorial power, the objectives of which are to put a stop to impunity, to demilitarize the society, and to build democracy. We are sure that these are also the aspirations of a majority of Salvadorans. Negotiations are a rational means of turning those objectives into reality, but if the soldiers and their front organizations continue to resist, we will continue to struggle, weapons in hand, until we attain a democratic revolution. That is the message of the 17 October lessons.

FMLN Commander on Guerrilla Army's Development

PA2210002990 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 13 Oct 90 p 7

[Part one of two-part interview with Commander Francisco Jovel (Roberto Roca), member of the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, by unidentified reporter on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the FMLN; place and date not given]

[Text] [Reporter] What changes has the FMLN undergone in the last few years? Could you tell us about its evolution?

[Roca] As is evident, 1979 and especially 1980 witnessed the end of what could be called the dispersion phase of the Salvadoran left. This was followed by a phase in which they rapidly overcame their ideological differences. We can say that the most important part of this last phase was completed between 1980 and 1982, but it was not entirely finished until the end of 1983.

The FMLN emerged 10 years ago out of the phenomenon of ideological unity. It was founded on 10 October. One year after its founding, one year after creating the first unified structure, a great revolutionary offensive was conducted as a response to the attempt by the military dictatorship in 1980 to remain in power without making any major changes. This is how the 10 January 1981 offensive began. It was practically the only time the FMLN spoke of a so-called final offensive, which implicitly showed the lack of maturity of the FMLN itself. Even though it did not turn out to be a final offensive, the facts show, however, that it became what we could call the end of a first great stage of revolutionary struggle by a dispersed group of guerrillas accompanied by a large movement of the masses, the most dynamic movement of masses that has ever taken place in El Salvador. This led to the creation of an authentic guerrilla army, which provided a framework for all political actions for the

next 10 years to the point that the eighties cannot be understood without carefully examining the sixties—which led to the creation of the army. I say this because there are simplistic appraisals, sometimes resulting from the dissemination of underdeveloped conclusions, which were meant to convince people that the creation of the Salvadoran guerrilla army was dependent on or had its origins in the triumph of the Sandinist revolution. To simplify the understanding of the problem in El Salvador this way is to commit a grave error.

The process of creating the Salvadoran guerrilla army was a long one. It was lengthy, difficult, and full of enormous sacrifice and heroism. We can say that the top leaders of the FMLN, dead or alive, were trained in the sixties, and they may be linked to the different forms of struggle—the clandestine guerrilla struggle, the struggle waged by the masses full of fighting spirit, and the electoral struggle—through at least one of the FMLN organizations. In this framework we find the struggle waged by the labor unions, students, and peasants, who demand respect for their right to organize themselves to solve major land problems, etc. It is a complete struggle. I want to make this idea very clear. The creation of the FMLN followed the development of what we could call a strategy that is not limited to the exercise of a certain kind of struggle. I make a note of this because of the popular dissemination of the false idea that the FMLN emerged from organizations that rejected all forms of non-military struggle. Those are just words.

Let us now talk about the eighties. As I was saying, on 10 January 1981, a great revolutionary step was taken. Thousands of Salvadorans became directly involved in their own communities in the development of their military activities and those of the masses. The FMLN has never had a military strategy that was not connected to the struggle of the masses. It has resorted to all forms of military struggle, using all the military potential it had accumulated. In mid-1980 and throughout 1981, there was a bloody confrontation between the regime and the movement of the masses. We can say that between 20 and 30 bodies appeared every day after being murdered by the death squads or by soldiers and policemen dressed as civilians. In that time period, a heroic resistance was made by the organization of masses against the regime's efforts to destroy the movement. In that resistance struggle, many of the most important cadres of the FMLN were killed. They became heroes representing the FMLN and the people.

But by late 1982, the extraordinary efforts made by the military dictatorship demonstrated their incapacity to wipe out the movement. Most of the areas under FMLN control were consolidated during that period. One could say that all the areas that were placed under guerrilla control then remain under their control today. Something new emerged in view of this: large-scale use of aviation against this area, indiscriminate firing using mortars—in other words, they converted the area into a free firing range. As might be expected, the masses were most affected by the dictatorship's desperate measures. One must take into account that El Salvador is very densely populated, so the guerrillas were not primarily located in sparsely populated areas with poor access, or in the mountains, as was the case in other countries in the 1960's. Such areas do not exist in El Salvador. In 1981 and 1982, a great number of civilians fled El Salvador in search of refuge; thus, a population displaced by civil war was created. The FMLN greatly benefited from these large amounts of refugees: Tens of thousands of people moved to other places to protect their own lives, the lives of women, the elderly, and children. This resulted in the movement of refugees to Honduras and to the interior of El Salvador.

This created a new situation for this recently formed revolutionary army, allowing it to free itself from protecting the civilian population. They were able to form a large group of guerrilla forces. The years 1983 and 1984 were marked by great clashes between large contingents of guerrilla and government forces. The big battles that took place in these two years nearly led to the collapse of the government Army. In view of this, the U.S. intervention in Central America became more dynamic, and was manifested in a greater U.S. presence here. The United States had practically created a mercenary army to attack Nicaragua and meddle in El Salvador's domestic affairs. Prior to that, but more so after that date, the upkeep, training, and strategy of the Salvadoran Army was exclusively placed in the hands of U.S. advisers. What little remained of the Army's subordination to the traditional oligarchy disappeared, and the Army became completely aligned with and dependent on U.S. military strategy and foreign policy. This phenomenon involves the military aspect as well as the political aspect. There was much U.S. political meddling. We could say that the U.S. Government initially tried to halt the people's insurrection with rather modern political measures.

The causes of the conflict, however, were too great for these minor reforms to make a difference. The first U.S. attempt to emphasize political over military measures was the formation of a triple alliance between officers, the Christian Democratic Party, and the U.S. Government. The intervention reached much higher levels in 1983. By the end of that year, the guerrillas power became much more obvious, and there were major disagreements within the dictatorship. Just to mention a few, there was the rift between Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa and the defense minister at the time. Also, the United States tried to replace all the Army chiefs—those who were accustomed to carrying out repressive measures—with cadres trained in the United States, not only in the national security doctrine, but also in strategies and tactics of low intensity warfare. The most outstanding of these officers belonging to the new U.S.-sponsored generation was Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, who became the 3rd Infantry Brigade chief. One has to admit that he was the only one really capable of applying counterinsurgency measures with a strategic outlook. He later died during a special FMLN operation.

To be continued.

Bishop Says Immediate Cease-Fire Unrealistic

PA2110145890 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 18 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] The auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, Gregorio Rosa Chavez, has said that a position demanding an immediate cease-fire to solve the national armed conflict is not very realistic.

It is known that the government proposed, at the United Nations, an immediate cease-fire if the guerrillas did the same, while there is a position in the U.S. Senate that conditions a cut in military aid to the rebels agreeing to a cease-fire within 60 days.

Rosa Chavez said that the former proposal for a cease-fire is dangerous because the roots of the war are not touched and, therefore, the seeds of violence would not be removed in the future.

"We believe this is not just a matter of signing a peace agreement, but of getting to the roots of the war and making the war lose its reason for existing in the future," Rosa Chavez said.

The priest advocated making deep reforms, which "means reviewing the entire structure, which means getting to the basic problems such as human rights, administration of justice," etc.

The prelate said that such is more or less the spirit of the agreements signed between the government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) at the meeting they held in Caracas.

At that meeting, both parties agreed to discuss the topic of the Armed Forces, human rights, the electoral system, the administration of justice, among others to attain a cease-fire.

Government: U.S. Aid Cut Supports Peace Process

PA2110013590 Paris AFP in Spanish 0014 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] San Salvador, 20 Oct (AFP)—The government of President Alfredo Cristiani said today that the 50-percent reduction in U.S. military aid to El Salvador is an act of "support" for the peace process.

In a communique the government referred to the 50-percent cut in the $85-million military aid package included in the 1991 fiscal budget, stating that the U.S. Senate's decision is in keeping with the spirit of the position voiced by Cristiani in a recent visit to Washington and the United Nations.

The $42.5 million withheld by the Senate could be reestablished if the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) withdraws from the UN-sponsored peace negotiations that began in April. The other half of the aid will also be cut if the government abandons the dialogue.

Cristiani proposed at the United Nations that the Armed Forces would begin a unilateral cease-fire in return for a similar gesture by the guerrillas, so as to create an atmosphere conducive to an overall, definitive political solution to the conflict.

The FMLN rejected this proposal because it believes the government is trying to end the 10-year-old war without resolving the issues that led to the conflict.

The government reiterated that the Army will respond to the FMLN's "aggressions," but it indicated that, despite the rebels' "provocations," the government "will continue to seek peace."

The FMLN proposed months ago to the U.S. Congress that it will order a cease-fire and agree to participate in negotiations if Congress definitely cuts military aid to the Salvadoran Army. In the last decade this aid amounted to more than $1 billion.

The guerrillas, who on 17 October attacked Air Force installations damaging six helicopters and wounding five soldiers, insisted that the struggle will continue as long as there are no political agreements to end the conflict.

Defense Minister Colonel Emilio Ponce this week charged that there is a plan by the guerrillas to launch a large-scale offensive similar to the one in November 1989.

There were insistent rumors in San Salvador this weekend about an increase in the rebels' military activities and the reemergence of activities by the death squads.

FMLN Calls U.S. Military Aid 'Blackmail'

PA1910234790 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Two nights ago, forces from our guerrilla army attacked the Air Force and other targets in the capital city and countryside. The response from the government and military was prompt. A few hours afterward—not to say almost immediately—the government issued a communique in which it accused the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] of being a warmongering organization and of threatening the popular organizations.

The military, meanwhile, spoke at length with the press, denouncing the guerrillas' actions. The tears shed by the government and military are hypocritical, and furthermore they are but ink.

For the past few months the Army has carried out a large-scale operation with special troops in Chalatenango Department, and a few days ago the elite Arce Battalion, accompanied by other forces, directed an operation in areas under our control in Morazan Department. It must be said that this last operation was directed at the non-combative population.

If the government and Armed Forces have continued their operations, artillery attacks, airborne disembarkations, bombings, etc., why are they complaining so much over our guerrilla actions? If our adversaries believe that they are going to calmly wage war without a response from us, they are completely mistaken. It is not our fault if their hopes were falsely raised because of the turn of events worldwide and they now have to face reality.

The operations carried out over the past few hours are also a clear signal to the government and some U.S. congressmen who would like to set themselves up as arbiters in the conflict by perpetrating blackmail with their military aid. They will not tie our hands by blackmailing us with the aid. They financed this murderous Army for 10 years, and that never scared us. If, in reality, the Salvadoran and U.S. Governments no longer want war, they have the floor. They have the floor at the negotiating table. Let us negotiate, let us discuss the causes of the war, let us reach agreements, and then there will not only be a cease-fire, but a definitive peace in El Salvador.

Meanwhile, they should not be surprised by the war. It has not ended, and it will not end as long as the causes that unleashed it persist. And in case our adversaries have forgotten, they must always remember that they are dealing with a political, military, and territorial power. This will help them to be more realistic at the negotiating table.

FMLN Representative Hails U.S. Senate Decision

PA2010221990 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1416 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Report by Hernan Martin]

[Text] Washington, D.C., 20 Oct (EFE)—The Salvadoran guerrillas of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] today expressed satisfaction with the U.S. Senate's decision to condition 50 percent of the military aid to El Salvador to the government's fulfillment of certain points.

Salvador Sanabria, representative of the FMLN's political- diplomatic committee, said today in Washington that withholding 50 percent of the $85 million in military aid for El Salvador that the White House asked Congress to approve is "an unprecedented change of attitude" by U.S. Congressmen.

Sanabria told EFE: "This is an unprecedented legislative action and a defeat for President Alfredo Cristiani's position of seeking to block the peace talks."

According to the decision adopted by the Senate last night, the delivery of 50 percent of the $85 million in military aid to El Salvador is conditioned to the government negotiating a cease-fire with the guerrillas.

The U.S. aid to El Salvador will also be reduced if the Cristiani Government's investigation of the murders of six Jesuit priests in San Salvador in November of last year fails and the guilty parties are not punished.

The 50-percent reduction in aid will be imposed unless the FMLN launches a new military offensive.

Sanabria pointed out that the bill, similar to one approved by the House of Representatives in June, was approved by an overwhelming majority—74 to 25 votes—and that it implies support for and acknowledgement of the agreements reached between the FMLN and the Salvadoran Government in Geneva and Caracas, under the aegis of the United Nations.

He also said that he hopes that the approval of this bill, which has been regarded as a heavy defeat for President George Bush, who opposes any reduction in aid to El Salvador, will serve as a message to the White House and the Salvadoran Government. He said, however, that everyone will have to wait and see what the results will be.

He added: "The fact that the United States did not clearly define its position regarding these agreements was an obstacle. With this decision, however, the U.S. Congress acknowledges the validity of the agreements."

The other 50 percent of the military aid is conditioned on the Salvadoran Government's acceptance of the UN's active mediating role in talks between the two parties, and its decision to comply with the United Nations to reach an agreement, including a cease-fire.

Sanabria said that the FMLN's goal is to reach a political agreement with the Cristiani government, and then to reach a socioeconomic pact that would lead to a cease-fire.

The decision was introduced as an amendment to the general law on foreign aid, which amounts to $15.5 billion. If it is approved, military aid to El Salvador will also be reduced by one-half if the Salvadoran Government commits any acts that violate human rights.

After adopting their decision, the senators rejected by a vote of 58 to 39 another bill presented by the White House—that is, to reinstate these funds if the two parties did not agree on a cease- fire within 60 days.

This is the first time the U.S. Congress has voted to reduce military aid to El Salvador, thereby pressuring the Salvadoran Government to seek a negotiated solution to the 11-year-old war, which has left a toll of more than 72,000 dead.

The total U.S. economic aid to El Salvador last year was more than $316 million. For the fiscal year of 1991, which began on 1 October, the U.S. Government has proposed a contribution of $375 million.

Opposition Leader Praises Decision

PA2010232890 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0043 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] San Salvador, 19 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Opposition political leader Ruben Zamora said today that the U.S. Congress' recent decision to withhold 50 percent of the military aid to El Salvador is a gesture of peace.

Zamora, secretary general of the Social Christian People's Movement (MPSC), said, "It is a clear signal for Salvadoran military officers, who no longer have a goose that lays the golden eggs."

He added, "It is a clear indication that war is no longer the solution to the conflict, and that they should start negotiating in earnest."

By a vote of 75 to 25, the U.S. Senate passed a bill that orders withholding one-half of the $85 million in military aid to the Salvadoran Government for the fiscal year of 1991.

The $42.5 million will be withheld until there is a satisfactory ending to the trial against nine military officers involved in the murder case of six Jesuit priests and two servants in November 1989.

The aid will be reinstated if the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] launches a full-scale offensive or breaks off the peace talks being held under the aegis of the United Nations.

If the government breaks off the talks, the rest of the aid will also be cut off.

Rosa Chavez on U.S. Cut in Military Aid

PA2110153390 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Report on interview with Msgr. Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, by unidentified reporter; place and date not given]

[Text] The Catholic Church has hailed the announcement of the 50-percent cut in U.S. military aid to El Salvador.

Msgr. Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, said today that the Catholic Church views the 50-percent cut in U.S. military aid to El Salvador from two perspectives. First, the technical aspect, which refers to the amount of the reduction; second, the human aspect, which focuses on the meaning of the conditions imposed by the U.S. Congress on the government of Alfredo Cristiani before disbursing 50 percent of the military aid.

[Begin recording] [Rosa Chavez] There are two aspects to this cut in U.S. military aid—technical and human. The technical aspect refers to the amount of the reduction. The human aspect focuses on the implicit messages carried by this decision. I believe that the conditions imposed by the U.S. Congress indicate that there are things here that should be revised. We believe that the establishment of conditions should be in line with human rights, because we understand that wars and weapons go hand in hand. We understand, however, that despite the fact that there is war, the human rights of the people should be respected.

I see this as the most important achievement. If war is not over yet, it is necessary that we insist on respect for all men by all belligerent parties. This is our message and reflection. Politicians will analyze the political aspects of this measure, but there is a human aspect that is of interest to the church. At this time, we hope that this message from the U.S. Congress and their concern over Salvadorans who are suffering be taken into consideration by all belligerent parties.

[Unidentified reporter] What consequences do you foresee resulting from this measure?

[Rosa Chavez] I think that.... [changes thought] We would like this U.S. congressional decision to make the belligerent parties remember that their weapons are not going to give us a solution, but that the solution will come from other actions, as I said a week ago in the Sacred Heart Church. The solution will come from sincere talks and serious negotiations, which are now very difficult to accomplish.

This is, however, the only viable way to resolve the conflict. We must not become discouraged, but we should insist on having talks and negotiations take place, because this is the only way to truly find the peace that we find here this morning, when the people receive new homes donated by the Red Cross.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you think that this cut in military aid should be accompanied by a cease-fire?

[Rosa Chavez] I will analyze other aspects tomorrow. [end recording]

This was the first reaction of Msgr. Rosa Chavez after a $42.5 million cut in the $85 million military aid package that the Salvadoran Government receives from the U.S. Government. Msgr. Rosa Chavez added that he will give more details of his position on the cut in aid during Sunday's homily.

U.S. Embassy Accused of 'Concealing' Information

PA2110154090 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Jose Maria Tojeira, the Jesuit provincial for Central America, has accused the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador of acting in a dirty manner, by concealing information from judicial authorities who are investigating the assassination of six Jesuits in November 1989.

I am certain that the U.S. Embassy has acted in a dirty manner in this investigation. For example, it has done so

in the case of a Salvadoran witness and in the sworn statement on the crime by a U.S. major, Tojeira said.

U.S. Congressman Joseph Moakley has announced that the United States has sent to Judge Ricardo Zamora important information that can help in the investigation of the assassinations. Nevertheless, the Salvadoran official denied that he has received the document.

Meanwhile, Francisco Estrada, rector of the Central American University (UCA), said the United States has admitted that it holds 21 documents that deal with the assassination of the Jesuits, but that it does not want to release them because that would force it to admit it is involved in the crime.

Moakley, who is closely following the judicial investigation of the case, has recommended to the Defense and State Departments and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation that they investigate some officials of the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador for concealing key information on the assassinations.

Tojeira criticized the U.S. Government's offer to send three judges to advise Judge Zamora, adding that it would be better if it sends three retired generals to supervise the Salvadoran Army.

FMLN's Samayoa on Gorbachev Winning Prize

PA2110193090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0505 GMT 16 Oct 90

[Text] Madrid, 15 Oct (EFE)—The Salvadoran Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) said today that it would have been happier with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev winning the Nobel Peace Prize had he not aligned himself with the United States.

In statements to EFE, Salvador Samayoa of the FMLN Political and Diplomatic Commission, said today that his rebel organization would have been much happier if Gorbachev's contribution to peace, which is without doubt, had not meant his alignment with the United States.

Samayoa is of the opinion that Gorbachev's alignment does not suit anyone, not even the Soviet Union, because it leaves the world with only one pole of power, and the United States believes that now it is the world's director.

The FMLN representative, who is briefly visiting Madrid, pointed to the law that conditions U.S. military aid to El Salvador to a peace proposal that must be presented by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, as an example of Washington's attitude.

Samayoa believes this bill, which must be approved by the U.S. Senate, is incredible and unprecedented since it means that the United States wants to dictate to the UN Secretary General.

The FMLN representative asserted that reducing military aid to El Salvador by 50 percent is good if it were to really happen and if it were not conditioned to a plan that no one knows anything about.

Asked if the FMLN has noticed any difference between the Bush administration and that of former U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Samayoa said that the present administration is less ideological and more pragmatic, but that so far their policies are no different.

We are still waiting for the United States to fulfill its commitment to peace in El Salvador, Samayoa said.

Concerning the next round of talks with the Salvadoran Government in Mexico, Samayo stated: This time we will try to untangle the process. Thus, the meeting will probably be held after 4 November and not before, as had been previously announced.

Matters related to the Armed Forces continue to be the main obstacle to progress in the negotiations because peace without change in the country and with an Army that is basically intact would be a victory for the government, Samayoa noted.

The FMLN is in favor of pacification, but not at any cost, Salvador Samayoa added. He did not rule out the possibility that the FMLN would have to increase its military actions as a means of pressing the negotiating process to advance.

In this respect, Samayoa criticized the propagandistic cease-fire proposal made by President Alfredo Cristiani and noted that the FMLN is open to various alternatives, but only if political decisions are adopted.

The guerrilla representative believes that an example the FMLN cannot follow is that of the Colombian 19 April Movement. This movement returned to civilian life in exchange for nothing and has paid for it with the murder of hundreds of its members.

Balancing the history of the FMLN's 10 years, Samayoa noted that the road to be covered is now shorter, but not necessarily easier. He added that no one is crazy enough to abandon the struggle when there is sufficient strength and the possibility of reaching our goals.

The guerrilla leader noted that the communist regimes' crises have not affected the FMLN because they were never our ideological source of strength. This will prove that it is not true that we had links or depended on Moscow or that the Salvadoran conflict was part of the East-West conflict.

Samayoa said that the FMLN depends only on its own efforts and that its roots are the Salvadoran people.

Guatemala

Supreme Court Rules on Rios Montt's Appeal

PA2010200090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2014 GMT 16 Oct 90

[Text] Guatemla City, 16 Oct (EFE)—The Supreme Court of Justice [CSJ] today rejected a revision and elaboration writ presented by the No-Sellout Platform Coalition, the presidential candidate of which for the 11 November elections is retired General Efrain Rios Montt.

The Supreme Court and the Supreme Electoral Tribunal have vetoed the candidacy of Rios Montt based on a constitutional norm that bans coup leaders from participating as candidates in presidential elections.

The resolution issued today by the CSJ states that the 12 October ruling on Rios Montt's amparo is neither ambiguous nor contradictory and does not disregard any of the points listed in the plea.

Today, the Judicial Branch accepted four appeals to the ruling on the amparo and sent the files to the Constitutionality Court.

In these appeals, the concerned parties do not request a public hearing and, therefore, the Constitutionality Court is to call for a private hearing within the next three days. After the hearing, the court will have five days to pass judgment.

In analyzing Rios Montt's appeal, the CSJ noted that Point Two of Article 23 of the American Convention on Human Rights establishes that the civil rights of a citizen can be restricted only when that citizen has violated constitutional laws.

Letter A of Article 186 of the Constitution establishes civil rights limits under certain conditions to safeguard and guarantee the rights of Guatemalans to live in a democratic society. The limitations apply to people who act against the Constitution, the court ruling states.

As the president of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, Arturo Herbruger Asturias, sees it, the citizen who was chief of government from 1982 to 1983, Rios Montt, is eliminated from the election process because the court has rejected the amparo requested by the parties that support his candidacy.

Herbruger said that Rios Montt could participate only if the Constitutionality Court revokes the CSJ ruling, a possibility that has been virtually discarded.

In an interview published today by the Costa Rican daily LA NACION, Rios Montt is quoted as saying: Do not print this, but I find myself in this situation because I am an ass. He said that he does not really want to be president and that he accepted the nomination because the coalition that supports him insisted on nominating him.

Regarding the CSJ ruling, Rios Montt said that the court vetoed his candidacy because its members do not know how to read. He noted that if his last appeal opportunity fails, he will behave normally, but, he warned, there will be one political death here. There is another kind of death, physical death, he said. I prefer to obey the law, he noted.

Rios Montt said that the guerrilla war in Guatemala can be resolved by allowing a political opening for the rebels. He recommends that the rebels accept the Esquipulas II Peace Plan's amnesty offer. This peace plan was signed in August 1987 by the presidents of Central America.

Rios Montt explained that he did not participate in the 1982 coup d'etat, that he was simply called upon by a group of young officers who revolted against the government, which was corrupt and fell. There was no one to get things going, then they called me, the former chief of government explained.

Rios Montt said that if he becomes president, the first thing he will do is reduce the nation's budget by 25 percent. No more secret expenditures, no more travel expenses, no more traveling, no more parties, he said.

Carpio Trails Montt in Polls

PA2110033390 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 18 Oct 90 p 12

[Report by Tulio Juarez]

[Text] The Honduran company Tecnologia Empresarial announced at a news conference yesterday given by its general manager, Mario Enrique Rivera, the results of its latest voting poll in which General Jose Efrain Rios Mont once again is the electorate's favorite.

In the event, however, that the polemical former president is legally and constitutionally not permitted to run, his withdrawal from the political-party scene would clearly favor two of the remaining candidates: Jorge Serrano Elias (MAS) [Movement of Social Action] and Luis Ernesto Sosa Avila.

The poll was taken as follows:

- Dates, 8-14 October
- Personnel: 16 pollsters and four supervisors
- Scope: 1,535 people polled
- Coverage: 22 departments
- Margin of error: 3.1 percent
- Level of result confidence: 95 percent

Rivera said that if Gen. Rios Mont did not run in the elections, Engineer Serrano would take a great percentage of Rios' potential voters. By the same token, however, it is very unlikely that if Rios did not run, Jorge Carpio's first place could be taken.

All 13 Candidates		Without Rios Mont	
1. Rios Montt	33.3%	1. Carpio Nicolle	29.8%
2. Carpio Nicolle	21.5%	2. Jorge Serrano	21.4 %
3. Alvaro Arzu	13.0%	3. Alvaro Arzu	18.3 %
4. Jorge Serrano	11.3%	4. Alfonso Cabrera	5.6 %
5. Alfonso Cabrera	4.4%	5. Luis Sosa Avila	1.9 %
6. Rene de Leon	1.3%	6. Rene de Leon	1.5 %
7. Luis Sosa Avila	0.4%	7. Benedicto Lucas	0.5 %
8. Benedicto Lucas	0.2%	8. Others	1.0 %
9. Others	0.6%		

Undecided—The undecided comprise 13 percent of those polled, including Rios, who replied "I do not know." Without the No-Sellout Platform candidate, the number of undecided rises to 20.3 percent.

Tecnologia Empresarial made a study "by areas," showing Rios ahead by 32 percent in the central area, 30 percent in the south, 32 percent in the high plateau, and 41 percent in the east.

Rios is followed by Carpio Nicolle, Arzu, and Serrano, with Cabrera Hidalgo considerably behind.

Central Area—Rios, 32 percent; Carpio, 20 percent; Arzu, 18 percent; Serrano, 11 percent; Cabrera, 4 percent; undecided, 12 percent; and others, 3 percent. Without Rios, the competition between the main candidates becomes closer: Carpio, 26.3 percent; Serrano, 25.5 percent; Arzu, 21.8 percent; undecided, 17.3 percent; Cabrera, 5.5 percent; and others, 3.6 percent.

Southern Area—Rios, 30 percent; undecided, 25 percent; Carpio, 18 percent; Serrano, 11 percent; Arzu, 10 percent; Cabrera, 5 percent; and others , 1 percent. Without Rios: undecided, 29.4 percent; Carpio, 26.1 percent; Serrano, 21.7 percent; Arzu, 14.3 percent; Cabrera, 5.9 percent; and others, 2.6 percent.

Northern Area—Carpio, 36 percent; Rios, 28 percent; Arzu, 14 percent; none, 12 percent; Cabrera, 3 percent; Serrano, 2 percent; and others, 2 percent. Without the former president, the UCN [Union of National Center] predominates with 41.3 percent, PAN [National Vanguard Party], 20.2 percent; none, 16.7 percent; MAS, 8.9 percent; others, 8.8 percent; and the Guatemala Christian Democracy (DC), 3.1 percent.

High Plateau: Rios, 32 percent; Carpio, 25; none, 16; Carpio, 13; Arzu, 9 percent; others, 4 percent; and Cabrera, 5 percent. Without the retired military officer: UCN, 35 percent; MAS, 22 percent; none, 18.2 percent; PAN, 12.7 percent; other, 6.3 percent; and DC, 5.1 percent.

Eastern Area: Rios, 41 percent; Carpio, 18 percent; none, 13 percent; Arzu, 12 percent; Serrano, 7 percent; Cabrera, 5 percent; and others, 4 percent. Without Rios Montt, the UCN benefits with 30.5 percent; PAN, 18.9 percent; none, 18.9 percent; MAS, 17.2 percent; others, 7.5 percent; and Cabrera, 7 percent.

The results for the mayor of the capital were as follows:

Oscar Berger, 30.3 percent; Rafael Escobar Donis, 27.1 percent; Oscar Clemente Marroquin, 24 percent; Jose Maria Ruiz Furlan, 5.2 percent; Pedro Asturias, 1.4 percent; Oscar Rafael Prem, 0.5 percent; Enrique Montano, 0.1 percent; and undecided, 11.4 percent.

Honduras

Callejas, Carias Meet With FMLN Leaders

PA2110223290 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 19 Oct 90 p 42

[Article by Armando Villanueva]

[Text] Mario Lopez and Miguel Saenz, commanders of the political-diplomatic commission of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], met with President Rafael Leonardo Callejas yesterday to ask him to take some initiatives in favor of the Salvadoran peace process.

The political representatives of the Salvadoran guerrillas are touring several Latin American and European countries to attempt to secure their cooperation in promoting a negotiated solution to the conflict in El Salvador, which has claimed the lives of more than 70,000.

During the meeting with Callejas, Lopez and Saenz explained their viewpoints on the peace process between the FMLN and the government headed by President Alfredo Cristiani. The process is currently bogged down because of a rebel request for a reduction in the military apparatus.

Lopez noted that they want the presidents and foreign ministers of the countries they are visiting "to discuss and analyze the possibility of proposing initiatives to further the Salvadoran peace process."

He said that the war is continuing because there is no cease-fire agreed upon by the two sides. Regarding the offensive launched in San Salvador early yesterday, Lopez stated that it was an everyday occurrence, except that in this case "it became news" because it happened in the capital.

Meanwhile, Saenz said that their visit to Callejas was not aimed at asking him to mediate between them and the Cristiani government, because the FMLN had already accepted the UN's mediation in Geneva.

He explained that the negotiation has two phases: first, political agreements prior to a cease-fire; and second, negotiations following a suspension of hostilities that would culminate with the end of the war.

The process is still entangled, however, in the first phase because of the issue concerning the Salvadoran Armed Forces, which refuse to reduce the number of troops.

According to Saenz, it is not possible that the Salvadoran Army has grown from 12,000 to 52,000 men since the internal conflict began. He added that this does not help the democratization process.

Saenz noted: "The president listened attentively and commented that if the conflict is not solved, the Central American region will be unable to achieve the stabilization that is so necessary."

Regarding this, he explained that the Honduran leader told them that he is willing to "help in every way possible to promote the progress" of the Salvadoran peace process.

They said, however, that they will not put down their weapons as long as the causes that originated the war prevail.

In addition, they accused the United States of trying to involve the other armies of the area in the Salvadoran conflict, and remarked that a Soviet intervention in the problem was a very remote possibility.

For his part, Honduran Foreign Minister Mario Carias Zapata said that his government will study the possibilities for peace in El Salvador and the ways in which Honduras can help in the process.

Carias Zapata also stated that the UN mediation between the FMLN and the Salvadoran Government should continue as agreed in Geneva.

The foreign minister also held a separate meeting with the FMLN leaders, who explained their position concerning the negotiations with the Cristiani government.

The talks between the government and the guerrillas will continue in Mexico City on 4 November, although their outlook is not too good because of the opposing positions of the parties involved.

This is the second time that the FMLN commanders have met with Callejas in an effort to obtain a Honduran initiative to help solve the Salvadoran armed conflict.

Nicaragua

Chamorro, Lacayo Discuss Venezuela Visit

PA2010144990 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Oct 90

[News conference by President Violeta Chamorro and the delegation accompanying her with foreign and local reporters at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport in Managua upon her return from a visit to Venezuela at 1500 on 19 October—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Chamorro] Good afternoon dear friends of my government, Nicaraguan and foreign reporters, and Nicaraguans who are listening. We have returned from Caracas, Venezuela, after almost two days of work, and I would like to say that the standard of friendship and cooperation that I found in that fraternal country toward our people is something completely human. It sets an example for the democratic world at a time when we Nicaraguans have a huge debt. Please understand this through my words.

President Perez is a man who loves Nicaragua and wants to help us. I feel that I must tell you here that the debt has not been pardoned, we must pay the debt, because we are an honest people. I would like to pay it during the six years of my term, but it will remain there for those who succeed me. I believe this is an example for Latin America, North America, the European countries, and the entire world. In that sense, I said thank you Venezuela, my second fatherland; Nicaragua is my first fatherland. Coincidentally, there has existed a great friendship between President Perez and Violeta Barrios de Chamorro since 1957.

That is all I have to say. We will be glad to answer any questions. Luis Sanchez [leader of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party] is here, as are Noel Vidaurre, my [deputy] foreign minister; [Presidency Minister] Antonio Lacayo; Adolfo Montenegro [not further identified], and Emilio Rapacholli [director for the Nicaraguan Engergy Institute]. [passage omitted]

[Lacayo] The visit by President Chamorro and the delegation that accompanied her was a success in many respects. It was a success regarding matters related to politics, commerce, petroleum, the foreign debt, training, and technical assistance. The delegation and President Chamorro met with representatives from the Venezuelan Congress and that country's government, with private businessmen from Fedecamaras [Venezuelan Federation of Associations and Chambers of Commerce and Industry], and with the Confederation of Workers of Venezuela, CTV. We can say that, on the political level, Nicaragua has been integrated, along with Central America, into the Group of the 13. The Group of the 13 is a Latin American organizatior that expanded last week, which, together with 11 Latin American countries and represented by one delegate from Central America and one from Caricom, will bring Central America and the Caribbean closer to the standard for development in Latin American.

Regarding commercial matters, Nicaragua has negotiated a new 40-year term on an outstanding commercial debt of approximately $14 million, thus reopening the possibility of credit from Venezuela to Nicaragua. This will allow the exchange of products between the two countries and start a flow of Venezuelan investment in our country.

Concerning petroleum matters, the agreement by which Nicaragua is receiving its petroleum has been reconfirmed and expanded. The more than 20 percent credit that Mexico and Venezuela has been extending to Central American countries for the purchase of petroleum has been expanded to up to 50 percent for petroleum sold at more than $21 per barrel, which will allow Nicaragua to dispose of more of its assets for the purchase of petroleum. That is very important, especially now that petroleum has reached $35 to $36 per barrel. This will help Nicaragua very much. The supply of petroleum has also been confirmed at 15,000 barrels per day for the rest of the year and for 1991 and will include material for the production of lubricants in our country.

In training matters, it was agreed that a center for advanced study in the field of mining and energy sponsored by Venezuela and Nicaragua would be created in Nicaragua to train personnel on ecology, mining, petroleum, electrical production, and new sources of energy, such as geothermal energy.

Concerning technical assistance, an agreement was signed by which Venezuela would make available its experience to advise Nicaragua on all matters related to oil exploration, drilling, and contracting with private enterprises to refine and distribute products to benefit the Nicaraguan family as much as possible. In this regard, we believe that, in just two days, the delegation led by President Chamorro—as the foreign minister said—with the charisma she projected in Venezuela, achieved many substantial benefits for this country, since the debt arrangement will doubtlessly serve as an example for negotiations that Nicaragua will have with other countries, such as Mexico, the Soviet Union, the countries of the former socialist bloc, and even [West] European countries. In this sense, the arrangement for a $140 to $150 million oil debt from Venezuela has also been very encouraging. It means a 40-year deadline, a six-year grace period, and a very favorable interest rate. The interest rate of approximately three percent is to be based on Nicaragua's export capacity, which means it would only be paid if Nicaragua regains the approximate level of export of the other Central American countries. Therefore, we consider it a success and expect that it will help Nicaragua advance the democratization process.

We will be glad to answer any questions you may have for our president or any member of the delegation.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Lacayo] The Nicaraguan Army consisted of approximately 80,000 troops when President Chamorro took office. That includes active duty personnel and those who were not on active duty. Those who were not on active duty included reservists, youths in military service, and self defense militias. At this time, all members of the Army who were not on active duty have been discharged and are no longer from part of that institution. The Army has been reduced to approximately 33,000 persons, including officers and enlisted regulars. After less than six months of government, the Army has been reduced in fact to less than half. There is also now a program created by Army and government authorities to allow the discharge of those officers who desire it once the government finds a way to reintegrate them into civilian life.

Oil Debt With Venezuela Refinanced

PA2010001890 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2241 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Nicaraguan Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo said in a news conference this afternoon that Venezuela has agreed to refinance Nicaragua's oil debt. The agreement allows for a 40-year deadline and a supply of 15,000 barrels of crude oil per day. Upon returning from Caracas, Foreign Minister Enrique Dreyfus said the trip was beneficial, while Lacayo termed it successful.

President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, who received a Liberty Medal from Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, also concluded commercial agreements with Venezuela and agreed on the creation of an ecology, electric energy, and geothermal energy training center to be built in Nicaragua. Minister Lacayo said that the center will help solve Nicaragua's problems. The energy minister [as heard] said that the supply of 15,000 barrels of crude oil will not only help produce petroleum by-products, but it will also guarantee the stability of fuel prices in Nicaragua. Radio Nicaragua will carry a special report at 1800 [0000 GMT].

Labor Minister Rosales on Bus Strikers Accord

PA2010015790 Managua Sistema Nacional Television Network in Spanish 1632 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Labor Minister Francisco Rosales commented this afternoon on the solution to the bus problem, which had been seriously plaguing users for about three weeks. Here is Rosales from the international airport in Managua:

[Begin Rosales recording] We had to make sure that the proper climate was created. The union's board of directors—the seven members who were fired—will be reinstated in their jobs. At the same time, the union pledged to vacate all of the bus terminals with the exception of terminal five, which was never taken over. A working session will be held tomorrow to arrange the official return of these places in the presence of the police, represented by Commander Alvaro Guzman, and the Presidency, represented by the ad hoc commission created by President Violeta Chamorro. The application of the collective contract was also brought up. We agreed to enforce it in November.

The most important thing is that normalcy has been restored and that, in a demonstration of maturity, the representatives of the two unions held talks. This is what really counts. The interunion disagreement had led to shameful actions, such as the torching of some buses. In addition, several members of the two unions were injured. In light of this, the most important thing is that an agreement was reached. In essence, this accord is an armistice, a peace that is valid as of this moment. We are happy and congratulate the unions for the common sense and degree of maturity that was exhibited today when this accord was signed. [end recording]

FNT Leaders Discuss National Dialogue, Riots

PA1910161090 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Oct 90 pp 1, 8

[Report by Felix Navarrete]

[Text] Top FNT [National Workers Front] leader Lucio Jimenez told a local radio station this morning that the FNT's withdrawal from the national dialogue, which was

temporarily suspended last Friday, 12 October, will be in effect until the government annuls the job relocation plan. This plan, according to economic experts, would alleviate the unemployment problem in Nicaragua.

Jimenez hinted that the FNT's withdrawal could reactivate the plans for possible riots. He said that if the government does not accept the FNT's conditions, it will have to solve its problems on the streets, using barricades and all other possible means of struggle.

Answering a question on the increase in terrorism in the country in the last few weeks, Jimenez said that when a government fails to fulfill the people's demands, it should expect violent reactions, such as the blowing up of an Enabus [National Bus Enterprise] terminal and the recent events in Matagalpa.

During the radio interview, the FNT leader called the national dialogue a worn-out and sterile process. In their talks with the government, however, high-ranking Sandinist leaders have expressed their willingness to contribute to the national dialogue in all possible ways for the well-being of Nicaragua.

Commenting on the dialogue between the government and the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] a few weeks ago and on the document in which the National Assembly expresses its support for the national dialogue, Jimenez said that the FNT shares the ideology of the FSLN but makes its own decisions and plans its own strategies. Jimenez said that in the last few weeks, the FNT has been working as a body—without the intervention of any FSLN leader—in making basic decisions.

This morning the FNT leaders met at the regional headquarters of the Sandinist Workers Federation to prepare the political guidelines that they send to their rank and file every week. Jimenez' secretary told LA PRENSA that this was an emergency meeting because the FNT leaders could not agree on whether to attend the national dialogue or not.

FNT leader Jose Angel Bermudez refuted Jimenez' statements this morning. Bermudez explained that the FNT has not yet decided whether it will return to the national dialogue, which resumes its meetings on Thursday, 18 October. He said that he personally feels it is better for the FNT to attend the national dialogue meetings.

The emergency meeting, which the FNT called for this morning, will discuss the increase in violence over the last few days, since the FNT could be losing control over its rank and file both in the urban and rural areas.

Colonel Torres Reports on EPS Reduction Plan

PA2110232090 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 19 Oct 90 pp 1, 8

[Text] The plan to restructure and reduce the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) is already at a very advanced stage, Colonel Hugo Torres, chief of the Central Political Directorate of the Ministry of Defense, has stated. He added: We just need to make some "adjustments" together with the government to ensure that the soldiers to be discharged will be reincorporated into civilian life. He added that in the first phase of the EPS reduction plan, which could come very soon, 4,500 to 5,000 soldiers may be discharged.

The military chief stressed, however, that not one soldier, not one officer, will be sent into the streets "before we can guarantee them the social benefits they need to return to civilian life." Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo made the same promise during the national agreement talks, "and we, the Defense Ministry and the top command of the EPS, will not discharge any soldier without guaranteeing he will receive those benefits," Torres pledged.

He said that since this reduction and restructuring process "is very delicate and must be implemented in a way that is fair to the men and the institution," great attention has been paid to drafting the plan and studying which units or soldiers will be discharged.

Torres explained that, to this effect, a top-level commission, which is chaired by General Humberto Ortega and includes the rest of the EPS top command, was set up. It is tasked with establishing the procedures to be used in preparing the ranking process, reviewing the files, and setting up the guidelines for which units will be dismantled or reduced and which officers will be retired.

Torres also said 10 percent of the officers were surveyed to learn how the soldiers understand the reduction and restructuring of the EPS forces. He noted that all of them understand the situation and the need to reduce the number of personnel, but there is much concern regarding the means of ensuring they will receive the social benefits promised to them, which benefits the government must give them, and how to return to civilian life.

The top officer explained this situation is very complex because there are few predecents for it in Latin America and the world and because a soldier is just like any other professional. The men who will be separated are professional soldiers. They were made ready and trained for their jobs, and they do not necessarily have to be courageous. In meetings that have been held to date, the soldiers have demanded explanations on the benefits the government is going to give the men and women; financial compensation in proportion to time in active service; job guarantees, which were the chief concern; land deeds to those who come from rural areas or enjoy livestock and farming activities; financial aid; scholarships for study or training courses, based on their academic level; places to build their homes, as many do not have one, etc.

Another concern and priority task consists of guaranteeing those benefits to handicapped veterans and the mothers and relatives of fallen soldiers. Handicapped counterrevolutionaries should also be included, since

they too were victims of the war that the U.S. Government unjustly imposed on the Nicaraguan people.

Torres noted that this is why it is necessary to increase the budget for the National Commission of Support for Combatants (CNAC), because otherwise it will not be able to fulfill its responsibility. He also called on the demobilized contras not to be provoked or spurred on by extremists, and not to be tempted by the idea of picking up their rifles to resume the war because that would bring serious consequences for the country.

A source close to the EPS top command unofficially reported that seven colonels will be affected by the reduction, which is expected to end in December of this year. According to our source, the colonels who could be released are currently serving as chiefs of military regions.

Ranches of Ex-Resistance Fighters Attacked

PA2110222890 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Boaco—On the afternoon of 15 October, approximately 30 armed men carrying AK-47's and RPG-7's and led by Pedro Lira set fire to eight ranches in the Las Lajas area of Camoapa where 25 men of the Nicaraguan Resistance were living.

The attackers did not injure anyone, although they did hit four of the men with clubs and killed four cows that belonged to the former anti-Sandinist guerrillas.

"Vicente," one of the demobilized guerrillas, denounced the aggression before Camoapa Mayor Jorge Duarte Sequeira and local Police Chief Lieutenant Isidro Mena. As of now, neither of these authorities has presented a report on their investigations.

Veronica Ibarra, in charge of the demobilized guerrillas in Camoapa, stated that the 25 men escaped to Rancho Rojo and that they are members of nearby cooperatives managed by Lira.

Meanwhile, in the Murra Abajo village, three armed men burned a small wooden house that was inhabited only by a 30-year-old woman, Maria Matus, and her two-year-old daughter. Both died in the blaze.

The woman's neighbors report that the unidentified men quietly approached the house to commit the horrible crime.

"There was no possibility of saving them because the fire spread throughout the house in a few minutes. We only heard some screams," said the persons who watched in horror without being able to do anything to help the mother and child.

Panama

Coup Plan Revealed; More Arrests Expected

PA1910165690 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Oct 90 p 1

[Report by Elkilia Santos]

[Text] The plan against the government was directed by former Colonel Eduardo Herrera and was meant to change the structures of the Public Force and the government.

A source, who asked to remain anonymous, told LA PRENSA that the plan was to seize the garrisons in Chiriqui Province and arrest the following people in Chiriqui on 16 October: Captain Milton Castillo, chief of the zone; Captain Castillo's assistant; the Public Security chief; and the chiefs of Public Force detachments who did not join the movement.

This information was included in the plans found in the car of Anibal Martinez, who is in charge of the Divala garrison.

After the previously mentioned individuals had been arrested, the plan was to arrest Emilio de Leon, Chiriqui Superior Court prosecutor; and Prosecutor Chacon, who is in charge of investigating the explosions which occurred in Chiriqui several months ago.

The mayor of David, Prosecutor Carlos Augusto Herrera [in charge of investigating the Spadafora case], and Legislator Camilo Brenes were also going to be arrested.

It was reported that a brother of former Lieutenant Colonel Nivaldo Madrinan, who worked for the Judicial Technical Police [PTJ], was involved in the plan. Madrinan's private security company, which is located near the PTJ in David, was going to support the action by posting members in front of the PTJ.

According to witnesses, the actions against the Endara government were supported by Francisco Sevonobish, a Chiriqui Province merchant; and Manuel Mora, a leader of the Chiriqui truckers who had been contacted.

The authorities had learned of the military officers plan a few days earlier, but they were waiting for the planned day of the coup to catch the suspected coupists. The officers did not act, however, because something went wrong.

On 16 October, Capt. Milton Castillo, who had been in Panama City, had to fly to Chiriqui and land at 2200 in the community of San Juan, where Public Force members were waiting to take him to the David garrison, where the Public Security chief already had the situation under control.

The individuals allegedly involved in the plan were then arrested. Those arrested included Sergeant Anibal Martinez, who confessed everything he knew of the plan. Martinez said that at the UESAT [Special Antiterror

Service Unit] installations on 21 December last year, Lieutenant Marquinez [not further identified] told him that there was an order to blow up the runway of the airport [not further identified] with mines which had already been prepared. Martinez said that he kept some leftover TNT explosives.

According to Martinez, when Captain Moreno was transferred to Chiriqui, Martinez became Moreno's personal assistant. Martinez said that Moreno had told him that the government was eradicating the Public Force; therefore, something had to be done to get attention, such as setting off explosives in the city of David.

After Capt. Moreno insisted on this for several days, Corporal Julio Sanjur and Martinez placed the first explosives by an electricity pole of the IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification] at the entrance to the town of Corozal.

Several days later, more powerful explosives were planted, including those in Las Lomas and at the IRHE pylon in Valbuena.

According to Martinez, those were the last explosives he planted with the support of Capt. Moreno. Martinez was then transferred to Divala where he was put in charge of the garrison until the plan was discovered.

Eduardo Herrera was supposed to speak with a friend named Maribel in Chiriqui, and Maribel was the person who was supposed to contact Capt. Moreno.

Our source said that Isaac Rodriguez, secretary general of the IRHE workers' union, has met with Eduardo Herrera in Miami over the past few days and they have held other meetings in the country.

According to our source, Herrera called and told his contacts that everything was ready and that they even had the support of the U.S. vice president.

It was reported late last night that military officer Nazar Gonzalez, chief of the Puerto Armuelles detachment, has been arrested and that he also confessed his ties to this case. New arrests are expected in the next few hours.

Endara on Recent 'Subversive' Acts

PA1910193590 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1750 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Report on interview with President Guillermo Endara by unidentified reporter; place and date not given]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara said today that one of the reasons for Eduardo Herrera's retirement from the Public Force was the division that he was promoting between Vice President Arias Calderon and himself [Endara]. Endara said this while commenting on the subversive acts that new Public Force members were promoting:

[Begin recording] [Endara] Those who were so childish as to attempt this—it was no coup d'etat—do not truly understand Panama. They do not understand Panama's democratic movement. They do not know that behind a constitutional government there is a person with many faults. That person is me, but I represent the people.

From a critical point of view, it must be said that I am backed by a civic movement. The thousands of people who back me would never permit a return to the past: a time of coups d'etat and a time when the military decided who would rule Panama. Those childish people have not realized that we are living in a different era. They have not realized that the Arnulfist Party is an experienced party with three generations of hardened people who are willing to fight to the end. It is a party that backs me despite all the criticism it has for me. The Christian Democratic Party is also a very powerful party that would never permit the destruction of the democratic movement. The same applies to Molirena [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement] and the Authentic Liberal Party.

The vast majority of the people favor democracy. They support a government despite all its defects. For the first time in many years, however, the people are able to say: This government has defects, but it is a democratic government. It is a government elected by the people, and it is a government that responds to the people. It is a government that respects the freedom and rights of its citizens.

[Reporter] How do you explain the alleged participation of former Colonel Herrera in this coup when he is in the United States?

[Endara] No, I understand he is in Peru. [sentence as heard] There is no reason, however, why I should have accurate information on that. When we retired Herrera, we already had some doubts about him and instead of keeping him in his post, we decided to retire him. That was one of the reasons we retired him. We had nothing against him, but we saw too many strange things. For example, the fact that he was trying to sow division between the government and justice minister and myself. I never liked that.

[Reporter] In one week, we have witnessed a demonstration and an announcement of an alleged coup attempt. What measures will the government take to counter these expressions of discontent?

[Endara] Demonstrations should be staged freely. I will always back demonstrations that do not affect the rights of others, even if they are protest demonstrations. I will back them, regardless of what they say about me, my government, and even democracy. We have the freedom to talk about democracy if we want to. I will always back these demonstrations if they do not interfere with the freedom of others. I say to those who attempt to prevent these demonstrations that I will support the demonstrations even if they are staged against me.

[Reporter] Public Force members were involved in the plan to destabilize the country. Does this mean that the Public Force must continue being purged?

[Endara] The investigation is still underway. I personally think that there are other members of the Public Force or National Police who must be investigated. I must, however, point out something that makes me proud: The preliminary investigation was conducted by the Public Force itself. In other words, the National Police investigated themselves and discovered this attempt. This shows that we are witnessing the birth of a National Police which is truly democratic and which defends the people's freedoms and democracy.

[Reporter] Can you give us details of the division you mentioned between you and the vice president?

[Endara] There is no such division. On the contrary, we are better friends than ever.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Endara] My basic reasons to retire Col. Herrera was that I noticed that he was constantly sowing discord between Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon and myself. I did not like that at all.

[Reporter] How far did that go?

[Endara] It got no where [Endara laughs]. Herrera did not know and does not know the kind of friendship that exists between Arias Calderon and myself. Everytime he said something that Arias Calderon supposedly said against me, I immediately would tell Arias Calderon. Arias Calderon and I held no secrets from each other. Arias Calderon and I would immediately check with each other to find out the truth: Herrera said that you said this or that. Is it true? And the other would say: No, it is false.

[Reporter] There was a poralization of forces among the political parties, however, and this was proven in the struggle over the Assembly leadership.

[Endara] The struggle for the Assembly leadership is part of democracy. Why do you not learn? You must learn that it is part of democracy. There is a struggle for the Assembly leadership in all democratic countries. If there was no dispute over the posts of democracy, this would not be a democracy. What happened is that for 21 years we had no democratic struggles.

There are differences among political parties. It is natural to have differences among political groups. I am certain that there are differences among the television stations although they are not constantly fighting. There are differences among reporters, lawyers, and various professionals. It is normal. There are differences among parties as there are different political interests. I am sure that this is part of democracy, and it happens everywhere. But in general, the group of parties that backs the democratic government are more united than ever. [end recording]

Argentina

Government Sends Funds for Gulf Expedition

PY2210002290 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1142 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Oct (NA)—According to a newspaper report, the government, through the Central Bank, has sent over $3 million to the Paris branch of the Bank of the Nation to finance the first leg of the trip for the two Argentine vessels heading for the Persian Gulf.

It was learned only today that the Central Bank sent a money draft, dated 12 October and in the amount of $3,587,443.95, according to a copy of the document sent to Paris through the so- called electronic post. The remittance adds more fuel to the controversy on sending vessels to the Persian Gulf because the highest ranking government officials had stated that the Argentine Government would not have to pay for the expedition.

The bank draft was sent by the so-called Swift [preceding word in English] system, an electronic mechanism that allows money to be withdrawn, through a code, only by an authorized person; in this case, according to the newspaper, it was in the name of the Argentine naval commission in Europe.

Meanwhile, for 12 days, the government, which from the beginning denied that sending vessels to the Gulf would entail any costs for the country, has been hiding the fact that it had remitted financing.

According to the report in the morning newspaper PAGINA 12, the Central Bank resorted to a triangular system of operation to remit the money because the money draft was sent first to the New York branch of the Bank of the Nation and then sent to the Paris branch. Sending the draft to Paris is presumably due to the fact that the destroyer Almirante Brown and the missile carrying corvette Spiro recently docked at the French port of Toulon.

It was only three days ago that the same newspaper stressed that the Saudi Arabian Government, which together with the dethroned Kuwaiti Cabinet had promised to pay for the two Argentine vessels' trip, would not do so. In this respect, the morning newspaper stressed that the Arab state would only pay for supplies, provisions, and technical assistance needed by the vessels if they docked at that country's ports. This fact definitely shows that the possibility of paying for the trip itself and the personnel involved will not be covered by the Arabs.

At the beginning of this week Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo travelled to the Saudi Arabian cities of Riyadh and Jiddah to meet with the authorities of that country to negotiate financing for the Argentine expedition. Moreover, that report was categorically denied by official sources, including Defense Minister Humberto Romero.

While it was learned in Buenos Aires that the government had remitted funds, Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo, who is in Italy accompanying President Carlos Menem on his European tour, received the two vessels in the [Italian] port of La Spezia, where they are making a stopover.

The Almirante Brown and the Spiro should have arrived at the scene of the conflict on 19 October, according to the schedule outlined by the Defense Ministry, but the vessels made unscheduled stopovers, and the schedule was extended. Both vessels are still in the Mediterranean. In this respect, official sources believe that on 26 October, the vessels will arrive in the zone, where they will participate in the blockade at the mouth of the Suez Canal in Red Sea waters.

The reports about the Air Force sending an Hercules plane with doctors and nurses to the Gulf remain firm.

Iraqi Representatives Reportedly Purchasing Food

PY2010145690 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1350 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Oct (NA)—A journalistic rumor, which started spreading in Buenos Aires today, states that in an operation to break up the trade embargo affecting [words indistinct], a group of Iraqi Government representatives is now in Argentina to purchase food and that the (?transaction) will be made concrete with the support of another Arab country.

The rumor emphasizes the "informal" aspect of the Iraqi mission, particularly because Argentina has decided to take an active part in the international embargo of Iraq by sending two warships to the Persian Gulf region.

The article published by the EL CLARIN newspaper points out that the mission has already contacted local chicken raisers about purchasing chickens. The newspaper emphasizes that sources, which the daily does not identify, but which are not linked to the political or entrepreneurial sectors, have confirmed the news.

The operation will be conducted with the assistance of a third party—an Arab country not taking part in the embargo of Iraq. This country will be the formal purchaser of the chickens, which will then be sent to Baghdad without any difficulty.

The article points out: "The Argentine Government decision to take an active part in the embargo seems to have been ignored by the businessmen."

The [words indistinct] sudden reduction in the Argentine domestic market as a result of the economic crisis and a loss of purchasing power are the reasons given by the businessmen for their decision to agree to this operation." [quotation mark as received]

The article also reported that some local middlemen, who usually represent Arab countries' interests—"including some of the countries that are taking part in

the embargo"—apparently have an active role in the negotiations and that "some diplomats accredited to Argentina" are also taking part.

Nuclear Cooperation Project With Turkey Slated

PY2010005090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2022 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Oct (TELAM)—Argentine and Turkish authorities have agreed to establish a binational company that will build two low-power nuclear reactors. In this project, Argentina will provide the know-how, while Turkey will finance the project.

CNEA [National Commission for Atomic Energy] Chairman Manuel Mondino told this to TELAM in a telephone conversation from Ankara. Mondino said although "nothing has been signed" yet, Turkish President Turugt Ozal "has approved" the project.

Nuclear Inspection Mechanism With Brazil Studied

PY1910182390 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0038 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Brasilia, 18 Oct (REUTER)—Itamaraty, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry, today reported that Brazil and Argentina have begun negotiations to establish a bilateral mechanism to safeguard and to inspect nuclear installations.

Itamaraty Spokesman Jose Vicente Pimentel said these two countries have the most advanced nuclear technology in Latin America. They seek to strengthen previous agreements on cooperation and the peaceful use of atomic energy through a mechanism similar to the Tlatelolco Treaty, which in 1967 banned the use of nuclear energy for military purposes in Latin America. Brazil and Argentina are signatories of that treaty, but so far only the Brazilian Government has ratified it.

Neither of the two countries have signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (TNP) which was established in 1968 at the United Nations, and they keep their respective nuclear plants away from the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Pimentel referred to the discriminatory nature of the TNP and said it does not ban nuclear weapons in countries that already had them before 1968.

When the new Brazilian Government was installed in March, President Fernando Collor de Mello assumed a firm commitment that nuclear energy in Brazil would be used exclusively for peaceful purposes.

Brazil's recent participation in an Iraqi military project involving missile technology has elicited threats by the United States to restrict the sale of supercomputers to Brazil.

Brazil and Argentina in 1988 signed a cooperation agreement for the peaceful use of nuclear energy, [word indistinct] a statement issued then, they declared their "inalienable" right to develop, without restrictions, their respective programs in that sector.

Goods Worth $60 Million Sold at Brazilian Fair

PY1910194190 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0140 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Sao Paulo, 18 Oct (REUTER)—Argentine enterprises have reported that they sold goods worth $60 million to Brazil during a nine-day industrial fair that ended today. According to the organizers, it is estimated the total amount will surpass $100 million with future deals.

Brazil and Argentina have agreed to establish a common market by late 1994.

One of the priority issues of President Fernando Collor de Mello's economic policy is to open the Brazilian market, one of the most closed markets in the world, to imports. The purpose of this decision is to curb inflation and make the Brazilian economy more competitive.

Trade between Argentina and Brazil rose from $1.42 billion in 1986 to $1.84 billion in 1989.

During an interview with REUTER, Natalio Marcelo Jamer, head of the Argentine Trade Office in Sao Paulo, said that "the fair surpassed all our expectations."

Jamer added: "Our products are much more competitive. Machines that the Brazilians offer at $900,000 we can offer at between $300,000 and $400,000. The machinery that was sold accounts for 60 percent of the $60 million worth of sales made during the fair.

Jamer noted: "Our prices for foodstuff and milk by-products are approximately 30 percent less than the Brazilian equivalent." "The vehicle spares sector is particularly promising."

According to a protocol signed by the two countries, vehicle components may be imported by either country free of import duties as of January 1991. The protocol mentions an annual figure of $300 million worth of trade—$150 million for each country.

Guillermo Federico Cendoya, director general of the Chamber of Industry of Leather and Related Goods of the Argentine Republic, said that now, for the first time, some Argentine sectors can effectively export to Brazil. Among these sectors is the leather industry, which in the past could not sell in Brazil because of the incredibly high import duties.

Although this is the third time the fair has been held in Sao Paulo, it is the first time manufacturers of leather goods have participated.

Cendoya asserted: "Our prices are half theirs, and our quality is superior."

He also said the import duties that dropped from 32 to 30 percent this week will drop to 24 percent next year.

Seineldin Warns Menem of Armed Forces Unrest

PY2110205090 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Oct 90 p 4

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Retired Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin, leader of the Villa Martelli uprising (December 1988) against the government of former President Raul Alfonsin, warned yesterday of simmering unrest among military ranks.

In a letter addressed to President Carlos Menem, the carapintada leader claimed "the stage is set for protests within the Army" of unpredicted consequences.

Seineldin said it was his "duty to inform the Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief (Menem) of something which is extremely dangerous for the future of the Armed Forces and the Argentine nation." "Such is the spirit which dominates the rank and file that the conditions are given for incidents of a seriousness that neither you nor I could possibly determine," the rebel officer warned.

He also denounced "arbitrary and persecutionary" policies against officers within the force. "The best men of the Army have been separated from their ranks or suffered administrative persecution," charged the five-page letter delivered to guards at the Olivos presidential residence.

"After the presidential pardon, the situation within the Army unexpectedly worsened in a direct clash with the aim" of the measure, which benefited carapintada rebels as well as officers charged with human rights violations. Almost two years have gone by since Villa Martelli and nothing that was promised has been fulfilled," said Seineldin.

"It looks as if there are very deep interests to maintain this situation without changes," he continued, because "there is no other way to understand the development and implementation of a completely arbitrary and persecutionary military personnel policy against all those who dignified the Army by confronting a process aimed at its destruction."

"Today, far from uniting, the Argentine Army is every day more divided," said Seineldin, and "there is a plan under way to separate all officers and noncommissioned officers who hope for the recovery of the force as the armed branch of the fatherland."

Regarding the personnel who participated in the Holy Week (April 1987), Monte Caseros (January 1988) and Villa Martelli rebellions, Seineldin said "those who present the warring Army as an enemy of democracy are lying."

According to Seineldin, the situation now calls for "an immediate reordering and a general reorganization in the short term, leading to a final overhaul completely in line with the integral policies demanded by historic reality."

Military observers said the letter, whose text had already been partially distributed by Seineldin aides some time ago, was made public following the deliberations of the Army Promotions Board which introduced modifications in the promotion system of generals as well as other changes affecting the high command of the force.

Meanwhile, Seineldin is scheduled to report to a military judge tomorrow to answer charges connected to a series of videos and letters he sent to serving officers, stating his personal views on the situation of the Army and the country in general.

Governor Refuses To Enforce Strike Law

PY2110230490 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Oct 90 p 11

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) Cordoba—Governor Eduardo Angeloz yesterday announced that his province would not enforce the controversial strike curbs decreed by President Carlos Menem.

In one of his rare departures from the global policies of the Menem administration, Angeloz considered that the strike restrictions amounted to a "persecution" of workers. "In Cordoba we've never favoured persecution but rather dialogue," boasted Angeloz.

He also argued that the right to strike could not suffer restrictions because "it's a constitutional right." "That's our stance in Cordoba," said the governor. [passage omitted]

For its part, the hardline CGT-Azopardo [General Confederation of Labor-Azopardo faction] yesterday criticized the decree as an arbitrary measure lacking "legal consultation."

In a statement signed by Secretary-General Saul Ubaldini, the entity accused the government of "insisting on taking measures" which "basically destroy the guarantees that protected the rights of workers and their implementation through the trade union system."

Branding the decision to rule by decree "authoritarian," the CGT-Azopardo also denounced the violation of "agreements reached by the International Labour Organization and ratified by Congress" such as those providing for "union freedom and collective autonomy." [passage omitted]

Former Montoneros Leaders To Run for Deputy

PY2010210290 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0538 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Oct (EFE)—During a ceremony held on 19 Oct in this capital, Montoneros leaders Fernando Vaca Narvaja and Roberto Perdia launched their candidacies in the congressional elections scheduled for the last quarter of 1991. They want to represent the Buenos Aires and Santa Fe Provinces respectively.

Vaca Narvaja and Perdia head the "National Justicialist Montoneros Movement," a faction of the ruling Justicialist party which bears the name of the guerrilla group

active in the 1970's. They expressed their "absolute support" for President Carlos Menem.

Vaca Narvaja and Perdia led the terrorist Montoneros movement in the 1970's along with Mario Firmenich, who is currently in jail.

The Montoneros movement decided to engage in the armed struggle. It claimed responsibiliy for the kidnappings of former military President Pedro Aramburo in 1970 and of brothers Juan and Jorge Born in 1973. The guerrillas received a ramson of $61 million for the release of the Born brothers, who own the agricultural enterprise "Bunge y Born."

Both Vaca Narvaja and Perdia went to exile before the military coup that ousted President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron on 24 March 1976. Thirteen years later President Menem pardoned Vaca Narvaja and Perdia, along with 62 former guerrillas and 210 military men charged with rebellion or repressive crimes.

Consortium Threatens To Pull Out of Entel Deal

PY2110205890 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] (DYN-NA)—Representatives from the STET [expansion unknown]-France Cables et Radio consortium yesterday threatened to withdraw from the privatization of Entel [National Telecommunications Enterprise] if the level of the phone rates "is insufficient to ensure a profitable operation."

Adolfo Rinaldi from STET and Dominique Saint Jean from France Cables et Radio said "if the bidding terms are respected there will be no problem because our proposal is perfectly reasonable."

Faced with this threat, Acting President Eduardo Duhalde met with US Ambassador Terence Todman to discuss the possibility of Bell Atlantic rejoining the privatization.

The consortium representatives also stressed that the sale contract established that "phone rates are to be increased in real terms if it is proven that profitability falls below 16 percent of turnover."

Public Works Minister Roberto Dromi responded to the STET group's declaration, saying "if the Entel buyers do not believe the value of the phone rates will ensure them a significant profit margin, that is just too bad."

The issue of the phone rates has reached a stalemate, with the government refusing to allow a level higher than 193 australs per pulse and the Entel buyers demanding 289 australs.

President Carlos Menem declared yesterday from Rome that "we will not budge an inch regarding the issue of telephone rates."

He added that there were "many groups other than the Telefonica consortium"—which are also pushing for higher rates—"who are interested in taking charge of Entel."

Menem then claimed that Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis had assured him that "as far as STET is concerned, there are not any problems of objections."

But Rinaldi and Saint Jean warned that even if their consortium reaches an accord with the government, and if the Telefonica group does not, "we would not sign the contract," because "the telephone network can only function as a whole."

The government position was stressed by Justicialist Lower House leader Jose Luis Manzano, who declared that phone rates "will not be hiked at the expense of the consumer."

State Gas Company Plant in Chubut 'Sabotaged'

PY1910120590 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1850 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Oct (DYN)—Osvaldo Acero, public relations manager for the State Gas Company, reported today that the company's installations in Trelew, Chubut Province, have been sabotaged, leaving 16 businesses and more than 150 houses without gas.

Federal police agents and the State Gas Company General Security Division managed to detain the alleged perpetrator of the sabotage and said the individual reportedly belongs to the multisector group in Chubut that is carrying out coercive measures against the national government, although the report has not been confirmed by any official source.

Acero reported the sabotage was carried out on the line feeding the flow regulation chamber that covers the Trelew industrial park and the town of Gaiman, 18 km from Trelew. According to Acero, "somebody activated the pressure controls and changed the reference signal for the operation of the regulating valves, which gradually reduced the flow of gas and left 16 businesses in the industrial park and 152 consumers in Gaiman without gas."

At noon yesterday, the peak gas consumption hour, State Gas agents detected the failure and began to correct the flow of gas manually, a job that ended only at 1430 when the gas supply was fully restored.

Officials of the first federal court participated in the investigation and reported the arrested individual is a former police officer from Chubut.

Brazil

Minister Blames Media 'Barrage' on Foreign Banks

PY1910215090 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Oct 90 p b1

[By Clovis Rossi]

[Text] Brazilian Economy Minister Zelia Cardoso de Mello, 37, blames Brazilian creditor banks for the barrage aimed at her lately. "There is bound to be more than a simple coincidence between the fact that after my first meeting with the private banks the magazine VEJA came out with a cover headline that stated 'Zelia in the Line of Fire' and that now, shortly after the Brazilian proposal was submitted, the same thing is happening all over again," the minister said.

Zelia suspects that "everything was orchestrated to coincide" (with the Brazilian Government's proposal for an agreement with the banks that was submitted in New York last week). The minister delved into her memory seeking to confirm her belief that the creditors are to blame. She believes that two of her predecessors at the helm of Brazil's economy, Dilson Funaro and Bresser Pereira, lost their jobs after head-on clashes with the creditors.

Zelia obviously does not blame any particular bank for the alleged onslaught, but she does not disguise her belief that the U.S. banks have been the ones to react most negatively to the Brazilian Government proposal. "They are not in very good shape over there, they are reducing their staffs, they are having problems with junk bonds [preceding two words in English] and housing loans. However, I am not to blame for these things," the minister stated. When she says "junk bonds" she means high-risk bonds that made a mess of the U.S. financial market and the scandal of "savings and loans" [preceding three words in English] companies that recently went bankrupt leaving a huge hole which has not even been officially appraised yet.

By claiming to have located the source of the barrage, the minister rules out that her recent criticism of businessmen who abusively increase prices and her much ballyhooed affair with the recently dismissed Justice Minister Bernardo Cabral, are behind the pressure that is being put on her. "That is not where it is coming from," Zelia said.

The minister believes that the spate of news about her and Cabral has not caused other Federal Government agencies to change their beghavior toward her. However, she does not disguise her irritation over the avalanche of news on the subject. "It irritates me because I do not believe that it is something that deserved so many pages in the newspapers. The foreign debt, the struggle against monopolies, the struggle to lower prices, and the financial streamlining are news; the rest is not," Zelia exploded.

The minister was not moved by the remark that human beings like to read news about other human beings, even if such news is not as important as the foreign debt. "This piece of news has already been wrung dry," the minister reacted.

Congress Ratifies 3 Provisional Measures

PY1910202390 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] The Brazilian Congress has approved three provisional measures issued by President Fernando Collor. Provisional Measure 233 lists 27 items, including diesel fuel, aviation fuel, ethanol, and lubricating oils, that may be imported free of customs duties.

Provisional Measure 238 allows the administration to earmark 300 million cruzeiros for assistance to regions declared disaster areas following droughts or floods. The third provisional measure [not further identified] that was approved by Congress has to do with monetary adjustments of National Treasury Bonds, BNT, and savings accounts.

Editorial Criticizes U.S. Computer Embargo

PY1910213590 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Oct 90 p 3

[Editorial: "Brazil and La Fontaine"]

[Text] President Collor de Mello's administration is continuing to pay heavy cost in the field of foreign policy that it inherited from previous administrations. Neither the Brazilian Foreign Ministry nor the president's frequent reiterations, followed by concrete actions, that the New Brazil rejects everything that previously prevented the country from joining the select group that makes decisions and shares and defends identical values, have impressed the U.S. Congress. Every time the new administration asserts that everything has changed, someone recalls some contradictory past action. We believe that the fable of the wolf and the lamb is being applied on a daily basis to Brazilian international relations. In addition to that, Itamaraty has not yet found the straight path that will enable the country to confirm its sovereign position in the international scene without having to resort to the nationalist and Third-World-like rhetoric that has characterized so many of the previous administrations.

The latest evidence that the spirit of La Fontaine's fable inspires those who claim to be friends of Brazil is the U.S. Congress decision to forbid the export of supercomputers to any country that has officially or unofficially helped Iraq—either now or in the past—to improve its rockets or its technological ability in the fields of chemical, bacteriological, or nuclear warfare.

The bill, which was approved by the U.S. Congress on 11 October, is extremely wide-ranging. To be sentenced to the technological "punishment," this assistance rendered to Iraq need not even had to be official. If a private citizen has cooperated with the Baghdad Government it is enough to render his country liable to punishment. This bill, naturally, does not intend to hinder the technological development of the EC countries that have supplied Saddam Husayn's administration with gas plants and the technology to manufacture the gas. It is aimed at penalizing Brazil. European countries do not

need the U.S. supercomputers; Japan much less. Brazil, however, needs them and the Brazilian Government wanted to purchase one for Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company].

Apparently the difficulties had been overcome during the negotiations of the two executive branches, and the Brazilian Government was authorized to purchase the supercomputer. Following the new Senate decision, however, the technological know-how of Embraer (and consequently of the entire country) has been affected and the competitive effectiveness of medium-size aircraft in the international market (including in the United States) has been reduced. The truth is that U.S. Senate believes that the supercomputer will help the Brazilian military to construct the bomb!

At the opening of the UN Assembly General, President Collor de Mello said that Brazil has given up all nuclear tests, including those for peaceful objectives, but his words were not believed. The fact that the Brazilian Constitution holds Congress responsible for overseeing the nuclear program was not taken into consideration by those who believe that atomic bombs are continuously being built all over Brazil. We must add to that the fact that the Brazilian Congress does not like the military and makes it very difficult for the president to get his policies approved. None of these facts, however, seem to be relevant to the U.S. Congress. What really matters to them is that Brazil has sold weapons to Iraq and that one retired brigadier has been contracted, privately, by the Baghdad Government to manufacture an air-to-air rocket and to improve the performance of a Soviet rocket that has been purchased by the Iraqi Government. The European, Soviet, and even the U.S. businessmen who have sold weapons to Iraq do not seem to exist.

The U.S. Senate has the right to legislate on the trade of sensitive technology produced in its country. It also has the right to complicate, if it wants to, U.S. relations with Brazil by not paying attention to the words of the president of the second largest power in the hemisphere. Those are the internal problems of the United States. We do need, however, to know how the president and the Foreign Ministry plan to implement a foreign policy which does not depend on the mood of the majority of the U.S. senators or on the pressure of the lobbyist who know how to operate in Washington.

President Collor de Mello personally opposes the idea that Brazil should have nuclear weapons or that it should manufacture nuclear artifacts for peaceful objectives as authorized by the Tlatelolco Treaty. He has never, however, publicly declared himself against the idea that the country should achieve technological capacitation in this or any other field of high and sensitive-technology, as the experts normally refer to it. The U.S. Congress decision, however, undoubtedly affects Brazilian technological progress. Worse still from our point of view, this decision only strengthens the position of those who, since the days of Ambassador Araujo Castro [former Brazilian ambassador to the United States who supported the exchange of technological information among countries], spoke out against the alleged technological monopoly of the industrialized countries, especially the United States. Now that the sale of the supercomputer to Brazil has been forbidden under the excuse that Brigadier Hugo Piva, retired, has placed his professional services at the disposal of the Iraqi Government, it will be difficult to say that those who support Araujo Castro's theories are continuing to see ghosts.

No matter how disagreeable it may be to occupy the position of the lamb in the fable, the facts are there: The select sectors that decide U.S. foreign policy (and the U.S. Congress is one of these sectors) believe that Brazil does not deserve any confidence. It does not deserve any confidence because, 15 years ago, the "experts" reached the conclusion that Brazil was about to manufacture the atomic bomb at any moment. President Collor de Mello's words are not enough to clear up the mess that started at the time of the Brazilian-German agreement. For the U.S. Congress, the Constitutional guarantees are worth nothing; the Congress control over the military ministries budget is worth less still; the lack of industrial ability to eventually overcome the problems of construction is not a worthy reason either. Still more worthless for the U.S. Congress is the fact that the government has no money to finance a nuclear adventure.

The poor lamb in the fable was devoured by the bad wolf. It is hard for us to believe that a country such as Brazil, with its weighty importance in the continent and its incomparable position in the Latin American political scenario, will have to accept being the passive victim of the bad temper of third parties. We would not like to be forced to oppose the United States and our tradition confirms that this has been our position throughout our history. Nevertheless, we want to find a consistent and determined policy—based not only on integration with Argentina—so that we can make the United States realize that there are alternative ways of treating a government that intends to ensure technical capacitation for its people without having to give up its positions in the domestic field. This is particularly true when this government, headed by President Collor de Mello, has been repeatedly demonstrating its wish to support the U.S. position in whatever aspect that may prove necessary for the consolidation of the new international order.

From now on, Itamaraty has a hard task: It has to build a position in which we will cease to be the lamb of the fable without returning to the outdated ways of Araujo Castro.

Election Results From Rio, Sao Paulo Noted

PY1910170790 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] The Sao Paulo State Superior Electoral Court [TSE] has released the final results of the elections held on 3 October:

Social Democratic Party [PDS] candidate Paulo Maluf and Brazilian Democratic Movement Party [PMDB] candidate Luiz Antonio Fleury Filho will contest the post of governor in a runoff election. Eduardo Matarazzo Suplicy of the Workers Party [PT] has been elected senator.

The Rio de Janeiro TSE has also released a bulletin with the final results of its elections: The bulletin confirmed that Leonel Brizola of the Democratic Worker's Party [PDT] has won the state governorship with more than 3 million votes. PDT candidate Darcy Ribeiro has been elected senator and PDT candidate Cidinha Campos [Maria Aparecida Campos Straus] was elected federal deputy.

Petrobras President Resigns; Replacement Named

PY2010025090 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] President Luis Otavio da Motta Veiga has submitted his resignation. He said he disagreed with government policies on fuel price adjustments.

[Begin Da Motta Veiga recording] Today I telephoned the president, I talked with Ambassador Marcos Coimbra, and I submitted my resignation as Petrobras president. The government made a commitment to maintain a policy of real prices. My experience in the private sector has taught me that unless we maintain real prices and efficiency, we will not be able to raise the competitive level of the corporation to international levels. Such a policy was not being implemented. I therefore find that I am no longer fit for this position. [end recording]

The straw that tipped the balance for Da Motta's resignation was Economy Minister Zelia Cardoso's testimony at the Senate commission in Brasilia.

Minister Cardoso criticized Petrobras on several accounts during her testimony. According to her, the firm acts as if it were independent of the government and not a public enterprise.

[Begin Cardoso recording] This is a public firm, and it must be under government control. At present it is not. [end recording]

This morning Infrastructure Minister Uzires Silva [Petrobras is under the Infrastructure Ministry] said in our studios that Petrobras must be subordinate to the government, and he supported Minister Cardoso.

[Begin Silva recording] I will obviously support Minister Cardoso, and I will see that Petrobras supplies all necessary information. [end recording]

Petrobras defended the adjustment of fuel prices to protect the financial health of the firm, but Petrobras pressures were not received well at the Economy Ministry. Here the biggest concern is with the effect of those increases on inflation. The resignation of the Petrobras president strengthens Minister Cardoso's position in the government.

Today President Collor made a clear gesture of support to the economy minister. She was invited to walk beside the president down the Planalto Palace ramp at the traditional Friday picture ceremony. At the ramp the gestures indicating power were very clear. To the president's left and very close was Minister Cardoso. To his right and further down was Infrastructure Minister Uzires Silva who is responsible for Petrobras. The president made a signal and Silva got closer for this Friday's picture of important decisions.

Eduardo Teixeira, 36, executive secretary of the Economy Ministry, will replace Luis Otavio da Motta Veiga as president of Petrobras. He was personally selected by Minister Cardoso for the post at the ministry. He participated in the drafting of the Cruzado and Brezer Plans and helped with the Summer Plan. Eduardo Texeira was the key man at the Economy Ministry for the administration of the Collor Plan. His special duty was the control of price policies. Economist Joao Maia, current economic policy secretary, will replace Teixeira.

New President Forcasts Austerity

PY2010162090 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Eduardo Teixeira is the new Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] president. He is giving up his position as Economy Ministry executive secretary to replace Luis Eduardo da Motta Veiga, who has tendered his resignation. [passage omitted]

Eduardo Teixeira will be sworn in as Petrobras president in Brasilia on 23 October. On the same day, he will transfer his position at the Economy Ministry to Joao Maia, who is currently the national economy secretary.

Teixeira said that the key word in the administration of Petrobras will be austerity. The new president also said Petrobras is a public company and openness will be one of its characteristics. This means that figures and the decisions of its board will be open to the public.

Regarding a decision on the price of fuel, Teixeira said the company's performance cannot be ruled by market oscillations.

[Begin Teixeira recording] An eventual increase in prices is tied to the difficult balance that must be established between an adequate remuneration of entrepreneurial costs, including administrative reorganization, and the reduction of costs. Petrobras, like any other public or private company, is constantly trying to reduce its costs. During this short period of crisis that we are experiencing, our challenge will be to adequately remunerate our production costs without adopting hurried decisions on the price of a barrel of oil. As you all know, prices on the international market have been oscillating a great deal—the price reached $40, $41, then fell to a little

more than $30, sometimes $35, $34, depending on the type of barrel and the place it is being traded. The important thing, however, is that the price policy cannot be based on spasmodic movements. I have repeatedly said that the price policy cannot be based on facts that are simply episodic. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Venezuela Increases Oil Deliveries During Crisis

PY2010024090 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Oct 90 p B6

[By Armando Ourique, special correspondent to Caracas]

[Excerpts] If war breaks out in the Persian Gulf, Venezuela will increase the supply of oil and oil by-products to Brazil, according to Vicente Llatas, coordinator of Trade and Supply from Petroleum of Venezuela (PdVsa). Brazil is already receiving priority treatment from PdVsa. Exports of oil and oil by-products from Venezuela to Brazil have increased from 22,000 to 92,000 barrels per day since the onset of the Persian Gulf crisis on 2 August. [passage omitted]

So far, PdVsa has filled all additional orders placed by Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation]. Llatas said that "if we had received bigger orders, we could have filled them just the same." Petrobras sent the first telex to PDvsa, requesting more oil, on 7 August, immediately after Brazil adhered to the UN resolution imposing the embargo on Iraq and Kuwait, countries that supplied 300,000 barrels of oil per day to Brazil. PdVsa dispatched the first additional shipments promptly in August.

Llatas said that in a case of war, there is "an international understanding" that oil-exporting countries "should increase their production" and give priority attention to needs "in the regional area." In view of this understanding, which Venezuela intends to honor, PdVsa should try to fulfill any extraordinary needs Petrobras might yet have. [passage omitted]

Japanese Financing for Oil Platforms Secured

PY1910165090 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Oct 90 p 4

[Text] Rio de Janeiro—Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] Industrial Director Helio Falcao announced in Rio de Janeiro yesterday that a $239-million (21.5 billion cruzeiros) loan has been obtained from the Japanese group Nissho Iway to build an oil platform at the giant Marlim oil field in Campos Basin, off the coast of northern Rio de Janeiro State. The semi-submersible platform will be built by the Tenenge-Fels consortium, which is made up of Brazil's Norberto Odebrech engineering company and the Fels company of Singapore.

Petrobras has already obtained a $270-million loan from the same Japanese group to build another oil platform in the Marlim oil field in Campos Basin. According to Falcao, this field will be producing 250,000 barrels of oil per day by 1994. The contract for this loan will be signed in one month, Falcao said.

Falcao explained that the $270-million loan was granted directly to Petrobras while the $239-million loan was negotiated directly between the Japanese group and the Tenenge-Fels consortium, which won the bids for the construction of both platforms.

Falcao said that the bids for the construction of oil platforms for Petrobras were tied to obtaining long-term foreign loans. The loan to the Tenenge-Fels consortium is payable over 10 years and is backed up by a Petrobras contract to purchase the second platform.

Chile

President Aylwin Comments on Husayn's Oil Offer

PY1910181690 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] President Patricio Aylwin today asserted that he does not think any country will accept Iraq's offer of oil at $21 per barrel. The chief of state made this comment at the end of Friday mass at the chapel in La Moneda Palace.

[Begin Aylwin recording] I have not thought about the subject, but I think it is mere theory. It is one thing to offer and another to really be able to sell. I do not think Iraq will be able to actually ship its oil and fulfill its objectives while it is still in Kuwait. [end recording]

Asked about the visit by King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia, Aylwin said: Excuse me, but I am not going to answer that question right now.

Cooperation Agreements Signed With Spain

PY1910210090 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Chile and Spain have signed a general treaty of cooperation and friendship and an additional economic agreement involving Spanish investments in Chile for $2 billion.

The signing ceremony was held at La Moneda Palace and was presided over by the president of the Republic, his wife, and the king and queen of Spain. The agreements were signed by Chilean and Spanish Foreign Ministers Enrique Silva Cimma and Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, respectively.

The cooperation and friendship treaty seeks to strengthen bilateral relations in the political, cultural, educational, legal, and consular sectors. The economic agreement involves $2 billion, of which $1.2 billion will be investments and $800 million will be granted as credit.

Drug Trade Conference on Economic Implications

PY1910123090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1918 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Santiago, 18 Oct (EFE)—It was reported in Santiago today that drug-producing countries receive only 6.3 percent of the real value of the narcotics that leave their country, while drug-consuming centers receive 75 percent of the wealth produced by the trade. This information was released at an international seminar organized in Santiago by the South American Peace Commission. Experts on drug trafficking from seven countries and representatives of the Andean Jurists Commission analyzed the present status of the drug trade in Latin America.

Documents to which EFE had access—sessions are open only on a reserve basis—indicate that in South America—the Andean-Amazon region is the only coca-producing region in the world—cocaine trafficking mobilizes some $12 billion annually, mainly in Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia. The document says that the narcotics are worth $120 billion on the streetsof the United States, a figure almost equal to the U.S. trade deficit.

"The Drug Process in Latin America," a study submitted to the seminar by Mexican delegate Georgina Nunez, says that the area under coca cultivation increased from 121,886 hectares in 1985 to some 330,000 in 1990. The study also says that Bolivia was the largest coca-producing country in 1989 with 290,266 tons; Peru and Colombia were close behind.

The study further notes that during the 1980's the drug trafficking trade mobilized resources worth $20 billion annually in Colombia; this figure is equivalent to 30 percent of Colombia's Gross Domestic Product [GDP].

During the same period the drug trade produced an average of $4.5 billion annually in Bolivia, or nearly 30 percent of the GDP. In Peru the trade mobilized $3 billion (25 percent of the GDP); in Ecuador $1.2 billion (10 percent of the GDP); and in Venezuela $600 million (8 percent of the GDP), the study reports.

The Mexican researcher says coca exports yield $2 billion annually for Bolivia, $2.6 billion for Peru, and $4.5 billion for Colombia. The study says these figures represent 50 percent of total Bolivian exports, 25 percent of total Peruvian exports, and 15 percent of total Colombian exports.

According to the source, between 60 and 80 percent of the chemicals produced for pharmaceutical purposes in Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia have been used to produce cocaine. These countries spent between $400 million and $800 million annually for these chemicals.

In a detailed country-by-country study, the researcher notes that 450,000 people in Bolivia—7.5 percent of the economically active population—are directly linked to the production and trade of coca. In Peru there are two million people, or 10 percent of the active population, directly linked to drug trafficking, and 60 percent of all production goes to the U.S. drug market.

Participants in the seminar, which will close on 19 October, are debating the link between drug trafficking and national economies, the risk map in South America, and the influence of the drug trade on judicial branches, Armed Forces, and foreign policies of the nations involved.

Representatives from Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Mexico, Peru, and Venezuela, jurists from the Andean Commission, a U.S. observer, and Chilean Government representatives are taking part in the discussions.

Poll Shows 69-Percent Approval Rate for Aylwin

PY1910213090 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Sixty-nine percent of the Chilean people approve of President Patricio Aylwin's performance during his first seven months in power. This is revealed by the recent poll conducted by the Public Studies Center. The poll was delivered to the press at noon today.

The poll was taken in Antofagasta, Valparaiso, Vina del Mar, Concepcion, Talcahuano, and Santiago, and 1,188 people were surveyed from 23 September to 10 October 1990. Roberto Mendez explained that the support received by President Aylwin is not as high as in the poll carried out last June.

[Begin Mendez recording] The percentage of the population which approves of the performance of the Aylwin administration is 68.9 which is a reduction as compared to the 73.6 percent which approved of his performance last June. The percentage of the population which disapproves of Alwyin's performance increased from 8.8 percent last June to 14 percent in October. The percentage of the population which neither approves nor disapproves of Alwyin's performance remains stable at about 17 percent. [end recording]

The same poll indicates that the population is concerned mainly about common crime such as assault and robbery. The second concern is health with 45 percent followed by price increases with 25 percent. The poll also reveals that the people want the government to curb inflation and to solve other aspects of the economic situation.

[Begin Mendez recording] The poll reveals that the people believe that the government should carry out three basic tasks: 50 percent said that the first task is to curb inflation, 48.7 percent said that more jobs should be created, and 47.5 percent said that production should be increased. [end recording]

According to the poll 48 percent of the people believe that the country is moving ahead as compared to 57 percent in the June poll. The poll also shows that 37 to 42 percent of the people believe that the Chilean economic

situation is going through a period of stagnation, and six to 10 percent believe that the economy is declining.

Regarding the government tasks in various areas, the poll reveals that the areas of best performance include foreign relations, human rights, and education, and the areas of worst performance include the treatment of inflation and common crime. Regarding political parties the Christian Democratic Party stays in first place with 42.8 percent followed by National Renewal with 9.9 percent, and the PPD [Party for Democracy] with 9.3 percent.

Navy Chief Views Equipment Needs, War Games

PY2010021690 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1647 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Santiago, 19 Oct (EFE)—Admiral [Adm] Jorge Martinez Busch, Navy chief of staff, said today in Santiago that the Navy will not increase the number of its ships because "the current number of large warships is appropriate for the defense of the country."

This is how Adm. Martinez Busch answered the journalists who interviewed him after his meeting with President Patricio Alywin at La Moneda. During the interview, the journalists asked him about European magazine articles stating that the Chilean Navy is currently negotiating the purchase of ships and submarines.

Adm. Martinez Busch, who said that he had invited President Aylwin to an institutional celebration, pointed out that the Navy "is studying the possibility of renewing its equipment, within its economic possibilities."

He added that the basic problem the institution is facing is acquiring more small ships to protect the exclusive economic zone by providing security to Chilean fishing boats and controlling the 200-mile limit of territorial waters.

Adm. Martinez Busch confirmed that the Chilean Navy and Air Force will conduct combat exercises with the U.S. aircraft carrier "Abraham Lincoln," that will arrive in Valparaiso on 31 October.

Publisher of Communist Weekly Released 19 Oct

PY1910170690 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0827 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Santiago, 18 Oct (EFE)—Juan Andres Lagos, publisher of the communist weekly EL SIGLO, was released today after a 26-day stay in prison. He was accused by the military courts of inciting rebellion and offending the Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

The publisher of the weekly was arrested on 21 September due to the publication of reports on the actions of the dissolved secret police under the military regime of General Augusto Pinochet and their links with the Chilean Army. [passage omitted]

Social Democratic Party Registers 19 Oct

PY1910203290 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Summary] The Social Democratic Party [Partido Social Democrata] was registered at the Electoral Court on the morning of 19 October. The party, which is headed by Roberto Munoz Barra, has one deputy and one senator.

* Reform of Supreme Court Discussed

90SM0017B Santiago HOY in Spanish 24-30 Sep 90 pp 9-11

[Article by Ana Eugenia Rodriguez]

[Text] Mr. Francisco Cumplido, the hard-working minister of justice, received some good news last Friday morning. President Patricio Aylwin met with him to give his approval for a study by the minister's Advisory Commission on a constitutional and legal reform of the Judiciary. The bills that will be submitted to Congress in late November, after consultations with the sectors involved, will be drafted starting this week. If they are passed, the administration of justice in Chile could have a new look next year. The Executive Branch wants to make it more "independent and efficient." It will have some new faces too. One of the key points in the reform is "to bring in new people." What this means in so many words is an overhaul of the Supreme Court, which some spokesmen have described as a "barrier" that prevents justice from being done or the truth from being ascertained, as for example on the sensitive issue of human rights under the previous regime.

One indication of the mood of most Supreme Court justices was their recent ruling that upheld the enforcement of the amnesty law in the case of 70 missing persons and the barring of an investigation to clarify the facts. It has been charged that this ruling violates penal law and international agreements and clearly contradicts decisions that the same Supreme Court had made previously. If the court continues to hand down such rulings, the Aylwin administration's intention at least to arrive at the truth about human-rights violations will come up against a wall. Therefore, according to one administration source, if the Supreme Court "gets some fresh air," the rest of the lower-court judges, who are certified by the high court, will be able to act independently and free from pressure.

Nevertheless, the administration is moving very cautiously on this matter of revamping the highest court in the land, as cautiously and tactfully as it is dealing with the issue of the Armed Forces. The Executive Branch clearly does not want to lay a finger on the autonomy of the Judiciary and the Supreme Court. Nor does the administration want to politicize the issue of Judiciary reforms, since it realizes that everything will eventually depend on negotiations with the right in order for the changes to be approved. In fact, right-wing spokesmen spoke out in defense of the Supreme Court after its controversial ruling.

Among the measures in the administration program aimed at honing the administration of justice, we can distinguish between short- and medium-term ones.

One of the former is the option that Supreme Court justices 75 years of age and older can retire and receive attractive compensation. Under the constitution, judges step down at age 75, but Transitory Article Eight enabled all justices to remain in their posts. Nevertheless, last year the military government enacted a last-minute law that enabled seven ministers age 75 and older to resign within 90 days in exchange for 14 million pesos compensation, which enabled Pinochet to replace them with others.

According to spokesmen, the measure that the current administration is proposing is not "humiliating" and does not have the political motive of the one that Pinochet took. Indeed, it will not have a deadline; rather, it will be permanent and will also reportedly extend to justices on the Appeals Court and other judges.

Justices Emilio Ulloa, Marcos Aburto, Enrique Correa, Rafael Retamal, and Luis Maldonado could avail themselves of this retirement option. The latter two are well-known independents.

The resignation of Supreme Court justices would be subject to "negotiations" with them, after a special-compensation law is enacted. There would be other ways of negotiating the retirement of justices as well. However, the administration is apparently ruling out motives such as possible charges of "flagrant dereliction of duty" or "nepotism."

Another proposal is to expand the number of the court's justices from 17 to 21. This would make the court, which is always overburdened, more efficient. And it would no longer be necessary to turn to attorney members, who were appointed at the discretion of the Government Junta or former President Pinochet without considering the views of the Bar, as had been traditional.

Under the constitution, President Aylwin would appoint the new justices and those replacing any retiring justices from lists of five names proposed by the Supreme Court judges themselves. But as one source said, "President Aylwin will not fall prey to the vices of appointments made during the dictatorship; rather, he will emphasize the character and independence of the justices when it comes time to choose them."

Controversy

Among the long-range measures, the most important and by far most controversial one is the creation of a National Council of Justice (CNJ). This would put an end to the court's self-generating mechanism, which is one of the most closed in the world, and would open up and lend greater legitimacy to the process of appointing it, making it more like those in many developed countries. This is because the council would consist mostly of members of the Judiciary (members of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals) and members or representatives of Congress, the Justice Ministry, the Finance Ministry, departments of law, and the Bar. And the Bar would submit the five-name list from which the president of the republic would appoint Supreme Court justices.

The council would also have the power to formulate judicial policy, to play a more direct role in allocating the budget, to create a judicial school, and to submit bills.

Most members of the Supreme Court and the rightist parties are opposed to such a council, citing the danger that the Judiciary could become politicized and lose autonomy. Nonetheless, the administration argues that the council will not adversely affect the autonomy of the Judiciary because it will not have jurisdictional powers. According to the administration, all of the reforms are designed precisely to lend political independence, financial autonomy, and greater efficiency to the administration of justice, which according to broad sectors, including National Renewal and the chief justice of the Supreme Court himself, Luis Maldonado, "is in crisis" now. In any event, the real battle will be fought in Congress. And once again the Senate, given its makeup and appointed members, emerges as a problematic stumbling block to the implementation of the administration's legal and constitutional reforms. Therefore, the approval and scope of the strategy for reforming the Judiciary depends on political negotiations between the administration and the opposition. In point of fact, the creation of the National Council of Justice requires a constitutional amendment, which will thus be included in the package of changes that the administration is negotiating with the right.

Colombia

Supreme Court Issues Ruling on Decree 1926

PA2010165390 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1214 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Political leaders currently holding positions in government institutions cannot be candidates to the Constituent Assembly, according to a Supreme Court ruling, which confirms the disqualifications established by the government in Decree 1926. According to the Supreme Court ruling, the Constituent Assembly must be comprised of individuals who have no ties whatsoever with the state, particularly with government institutions, so that they can function in a free, autonomous, unbiased, and responsible manner.

The Supreme Court confirmed the disqualifications established by the government in Decree 1926 for candidacy to the Constituent Assembly, and ratified the political pact that paved the way for the Constituent Assembly, eliminating only those aspects that limited the agenda that was agreed upon by the government, and the five million peso surety imposed on individuals who registered as candidates. In its ruling, the Supreme Court states that it felt no

constraints in this case because it did not entail an unconstitutionality lawsuit, but rather the compulsory revision of a decree issued under a state of siege.

The fact that ranking government officials aspire to seats in the Constituent Assembly may cause a disruption within the Executive Branch. Presidential adviser Fernando Carrillo, as well as Health Minister Antonio Navarro Wolff, may resign to head lists supported by the business sector, and other cabinet ministers and government officials may do likewise. The Supreme Court has issued a ruling on the disqualifications, but whether or not these disqualifications will take effect a certain period of time prior to registration for candidacy to the Constituent Assembly has not been established.

Patrols Increased To Curb Sabotage by ELN

PA2010193790 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] The Army and police are stepping up patrols in rural areas in Arauca and along the border of Boyaca Department, after ELN [Army of National Liberation] guerrillas blew up an utility pole and a sector of the Cano-Limon-Covenas oil pipeline. According to the official report, several guerrillas placed a dynamite charge at an electrical network tower on the Boyaca-Arauca border, blacking out the municipalities of Samore, Toledo and Cubara. At the same time, another ELN group blew up a sector of the Cano-Limon-Covenas pipeline at the 60 km marker near the Arauca capital, causing a crude oil spill and interrupting pumping operations.

Escobar Writes Preface to Book on Extradition

PA2110005690 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Report by Amparo Fonton]

[Text] A new book on extradition will be published within the next few weeks. This will undoubtedly cause much controversy, not because of the 185 pages written by Lawyer Santiago Uribe Ortiz, but because of the eight pages of preamble, which is signed by Pablo Escobar Gaviria and dated in Medellin on 25 August 1990. As on other occasions, Escobar added his fingerprint to confirm his signature's authenticity.

Escobar, wielding legal and political language, used the introduction to refer to the current topic of the Constituent Assembly. He said that certain sectors, which he describes as backward, have said that issues such as extradition cannot be discussed in the Constituent Assembly. Speaking respectfully about the president, he wrote: It is a good time to publicly reiterate that current Colombian President Dr. Cesar Gaviria has on several opportunities mentioned the need to have extradition matters constitutionally regulated by the Constituent Assembly or by the Congress.

The book's prologue also refers to the murders of Luis Carlos Galan Sarmiento, Bernardo Jaramillo Ossa, and Carlos Pizarro, and states that The Extraditables group had nothing to do with them. The eight pages repeatedly broach the extradition topic, going so far as to say that the political aspect of this matter has not been dealt with. This, perhaps, is why he says that Dr. Uribe Ortiz' book is very lovely and well-written, but it is a pity that neither this book nor any of the many others that have been published on the subject have broached other underlying and ever-present social realities such as drug trafficking and terrorism.

Escobar Gaviria's foreword, written just a few days before the journalists were kidnapped, paradoxically ends with a request for a civilized discussion and assurance of respect for everyone.

Trafficker Turns Self in To Avoid Extradition

PA1910135890 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] According to last minute reports, Gonzaga de Jesus Rincon has just handed himself in to a judge in Pereira City. He said: I have exported cocaine to the United States, and I am on the extraditables list. I seek the protection of the new government regulations, which state that I cannot be extradited because I am turning myself in to the authorities. This was a last minute radio report.

Nationwide Battle Reports for 7-19 October

PA2110173490

[Editorial Report] Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish on 9 October on pages 1-A and 8-A reports that Privates Pablo Torres Restrepo, Ivan Serrato Ladino, and Omar Veloza Rodriguez, who were members of headquarters Operation Command No. 2 in Arauca, were presumably killed on 8 October by guerrilla forces in El Culebro, Tame Jurisdiction.

Bogota EL TIEMPO also reports in its 9 October issue on page 8-A that three soldiers have been killed by Army of National Liberation [ELN] rebels in Minas, Cesar Department; Reinero, Arauca Department; and Termales, Huila Department. The newspaper also publishes a report revealing that a member of the 7th Front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] has died in a clash with the Jose Joaquin Paris Battalion in Puerto Nuevo, Guaviare Jurisdiction.

Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish at 0100 GMT on 14 October reports that the Army reported the death of five guerrilla members in different clashes with military units.

Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish at 0000 GMT on 16 October reports that one person was killed and four were wounded in Mesetas, Meta Department, when FARC members tried to seize the town.

Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 15 October carries a report that military forces have

continued search and control operations in Santander and La Guajira Departments after five ELN rebels were killed in clashes at Centenario Hill, San Vicente de Chucuri Jurisdiction, and Marimonda, Fonseca Municipality. The report adds that the military seized weapons, ammunition, military supply kits, and subversive ELN propaganda.

Ecuador

Borja, Bonilla on Congress; Bucaram Comments

PA2010044790 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2308 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Recorded passages in italics]

[Text] Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja said that state institutions must set an example of prudence and seriousness. He said there must be civilized respect among the three branches of government. After meeting with the congressional commission that reported the incidents in Congress to him, the president ruled out the possibility that Ecuadoran democracy is in danger. He also reiterated his absolute respect for the National Congress and its independence from other branches.

[Borja] *This resolution [dismissing Bucaram as president of the National Congress] is strictly Congress' jurisdiction. We in the executive branch respect it entirely. It is not up to us to judge it. It lies under Congress' jurisdiction and we hope that in the future we can restore harmony among the three branches of government.*

Congress President Luis Edelberto Bonilla said he will work wholeheartedly for the Congress, democracy, and the fatherland. He said the country is going through historic times because the danger that democracy and Congress are facing has led to the emerging of one of the greatest virtues of the Ecuadoran people—their deep love for their fatherland. Bonilla noted that democracy can only exist if there is a representative body at work. He asked judicial workers to call off the strike for the sake of the peace of the Ecuadoran people.

[Bonilla] *I am making a patriotic request in writing. I want you to call off the strike. Do it for the sake of our country's peace. We understand the critical situation of those who come to our offices, but we hope you call off the strike. You should call off the strike knowing that on certain occasions [words indistinct] the Congress presidency has always shown its support for workers. I want to tell you that one of the most important missions I will attempt to fulfill as president of the National Congress is to solve the serious problems in justice administration.*

Averroes Bucaram, the ousted president of the National Congress, said he will continue to carry out his duties and that beginning 22 October, he will head the special sessions. He added that if Dr. Bonilla wants to preside over the sessions, he can do so at the Government Ministry. He said that President Rodrigo Borja will be responsible for any incidents that may occur on Monday and that the appointment of the new Congress president is unconstitutional. Averroes Bucaram will remain at the National Congress during the weekend to prevent any attempts to evict him and to plan the strategy he will follow on Monday. Therefore, he will not travel to Guayaquil as scheduled.

[Bucaram] *I will hold the government responsible for any incidents that may occur.*

[Unidentified reporter] *[Question indistinct]*

[Bucaram] *Let the president resign. He is starving the people to death.*

[Reporter] *Will you remain Congress president?*

[Bucaram] *Yes.*

[Reporter] *[Question indistinct]*

[Bucaram] *If Borja resigns, I will resign.*

[Reporter] *[Question indistinct]*

[Bucaram] *Why does Borja want me to resign?*

[Reporter] *Are you going to remain in the Congress building?*

[Bucaram] *Yes, we will stay here.*

[Reporter] *Are you going to live there?*

[Bucaram] *No, I have to go to Guayaquil. I am going to Guayaquil because these bastards have been calling my house since [words indistinct] the government minister.*

[Reporter] *[Question indistinct]*

[Bucaram] *They did not threaten me before, but now they are saying they will kidnap my daughter and throw a bomb at me. They are cowards. They know I walk down the street. Why do not they find me? What does my daughter have to do with this political issue? They have [words indistinct]. I do not think Alfaro Lives has anything to do with these threats. [The threats] come from the government.*

[Reporter] *What will happen on Monday when the new Congress president, Dr. Bonilla, comes to take your place?*

[Bucaram] *I must tell you that I will come here to preside over the sessions. The Congress elected me president. If Dr. Bonilla wants to preside over the sessions, he should go to the Government Ministry.*

Bucaram Forcibly Removed

PA2010175190 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1640 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Quito, 20 Oct (EFE)—Early this morning the Ecuadoran police dislodged Averroes Bucaram, the ousted president of the congress, and deputies who support him from the congressional facility. Bucaram

and his followers have refused to acknowledge the election of his successor, socialist Edelberto Bonilla.

The National Police radio patrol service has confirmed to EFE that the dislodgement was carried out at 0350 without any major incidents. Bucaram, who had said that he would die before abandoning his post, was ousted on the night of 18 October by 37 of the 38 deputies who held a session concurrent with one held by the remaining 34 Ecuadoran congressmen.

Several of the latter group were dislodged along with Bucaram, who was ousted by a congressional majority after coming under fire for enforcing procedures that discredited, dishonored, and rendered illegitimate his post.

Bonilla, who was elected to replace Bucaram, announced on 19 October that he had instructed the legislative police escorts to first exhaust every courteous means of eviction to avoid having to order his expulsion from the congressional facility.

Bucaram, leader of the Concentration of Popular Forces (CFP, populist), was elected president of congress during a lengthy, incident-filled session on 10 August, by deputies from several parties opposed to President Rodrigo Borja's election. Nevertheless, some of these deputies withdrew their support from Bucaram and joined with other opposition parties and the ruling Democratic Left (ID, the Social Democrats), who voted the populist leader out and elected Bonilla, a socialist.

AVC Rebels To Put Down Arms in November

PA1910150090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2001 GMT 16 Oct 90

[Text] Quito, 16 Oct, (EFE)—The Ecuadoran insurgent group, Alfaro Lives Dammit [AVC], has announced that it will turn over its arms to the Andean Parliament in the last week of November 1990.

In a communique released on 16 October, the leftist group told the president of the subregional organization, Peruvian Senator Romualdo Biaggi, that the AVC and the government of President Rodrigo Borja had set this provisional date while renewing the negotiations that had come to a standstill due to the delay and indifference in the government's actions.

Juan Cuvi Sanchez and Marco Troya, the main leaders of the group, added in the communique that, fortunately for the country, we have once again chosen the negotiations route. We are encouraged by a spirit of goodwill that enables us to expect favorable results in a short period of time. We can say that that the Borja government has finally made the decision to support the peace process by eliminating all the obstacles that had previously hindered the process.

The group, which takes its name from a war cry of the liberal ranks at the turn of the century led by hero and former Ecuadoran President Eloy Alfaro, began its disbandment on 7 March 1989. On that day, it promised to abandon the armed fight it had begun six years before with the support of the Colombian 19 April Movement (M-19). The AVC hopes to become a political party and be accepted as an active member of Socialist International (IS), just like the Colombian group with which the AVC carried out several missions in both countries.

After carrying out many spectacular kidnappings and hold-ups at banks, supermarkets, and police stations, the AVC lost its main leaders and founders under the administration of former Conservative President Leon Febres Cordero (1984-88). Nearly all of its leaders were arrested in that time period.

Peru

Officers End Meeting With Chilean Colleagues

PY1910172790 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0137 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Lima, 18 Oct (EFE)—According to an official communique, high-ranking Peruvian and Chilean officers ended a four-day meeting in Lima today which sought to increase cooperation and the exchange of information between the Armed Forces of the two countries.

A communique has been issued by the Peruvian Armed Forces Joint Command through the official press agency "Andina." It states that the talks developed in "a climate of friendship and cooperation."

It then adds: "The results of the meeting will facilitate an increase in cooperation, the exchange of information between the two Armed Forces, and an enhancement of existing mutual and fruitful communications."

The meeting, the sixth since 1985, was held in Lima. The high ranking officers agreed to meet again in 1991 in Santiago, Chile, although no definite date was chosen.

The officers were advised by diplomats and experts from their respective Foreign Ministries and during the meeting "the resolutions approved during the fourth round of talks held in Santiago" were assessed.

According to the official communique, one of the outstanding topics of the meeting was the cooperation that has been planned between the two Armed Forces "in the case of a natural disaster."

General Ramon Vega Hidalgo, the Chilean chief of staff, and Vice Admiral Manuel Ramos Montoya, the Peruvian chief of staff, presided over the respective delegations.

Drug Trafficking Accord Signed With Chile

PY2010131290 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Today, within the framework of the good relationship they share, Peru and Chile signed an important

agreement designed to jointly fight drug trafficking. The document was signed by Peruvian Foreign Minister Luis Marchand Stens and Chilean Foreign Under Secretary Edmundo Vargas.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Foreign Minister Luis Marchand Stens and Chilean Foreign Under Secretary Edmundo Vargas Carreno signed an administrative agreement on the struggle against drugs and psychotropic substances. During the ceremony at the Torre Tagle building, the high government officials were accompanied by Chilean Ambassador to Peru Alejandro Magnet and Peruvian Ambassador Alfonso Riveros.

The authorities signing the agreement noted that it fully reflects a good relationship between brother countries.

[Marchand] In truth, this agreement is an administrative accord between the two countries that is designed to coordinate programs to eradicate drug trafficking. The important thing about this agreement is that it provides for a frequent exchange of information that will help eradicate this problem.

[Vargas] As I was saying, this agreement is an expression of the excellent level of understanding that the Peruvians and Chileans have reached. It is one of the ways in which our two governments can cooperate with each other, can (?coexist) through cooperation and by coordinating actions to fight the most serious scourge that threatens our societies: drug trafficking.

[Reporter] How would you describe the relationship between our two countries?

[Vargas] It is very good, very good. [end recording]

Official Denies Manufacture of Atomic Bomb

PY2010152890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0150 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Lima, 19 Oct (EFE)—Chilean Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Edmundo Vargas Carreno stated today that Chile is not manufacturing atomic bombs and is not economically or scientifically prepared to do so.

"I want to categorically deny that Chile is manufacturing or storing chemical or nuclear weapons. It has never done so and will never do so," he said.

"Chile is essentially a peaceful country with very high moral standards; we have never manufactured that type of weapon (atomic), which is forbidden," the foreign under secretary stated.

Terming reports that his country "is manufacturing nuclear or chemical weapons, or similar ones" as "false information," Vargas said Chile has renovated obsolete war materiel "with no desire for an excessive acquisition of weapons."

Foreign news agency reports published in Lima on Saturday [13 October] stated that, according to the Santiago newspaper LA EPOCA, the Chilean enterprise Cardoen is developing a "Fuel-Air Explosive" (FAE), which is as powerful as a tactical nuclear bomb.

"I think the reporter who wrote that article is absolutely misinformed. It is absolutely groundless. The accusation is false," Vargas said.

The fifth meeting of the Peruvian and Chilean Air Force chiefs of staff ended last Thursday in Lima. These meetings are held in accordance with an agreement to maintain good bilateral military relations.

Shining Path Mines Market; Four Said Arrested

PY2210022490 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpts] A Shining Path subversive column made a raid on El Salvador District, where they hung flags along the main avenue and then mined the 24 de Junio market. Luckily, quick action by the National Police prevented there being any victims. As a result of the police's quick action, four subversive criminals were arrested.

Here we have a report by our journalist, Miguel Seminario:

[Begin recording] At 1000 today Shining Path subversives took over the 24 de Junio market, in El Salvador District. [passage omitted]

Police proceeded to search the area and disarm booby traps. As a result of the police action, the following persons were arrested: Luis Gomez del Prado, 24, recognized as the person who attacked a patrol car; (Wilbur Belleza Natan), 26, a San Marcos University economics student; Genaro Huaman, 24, an economic student at the same university; and Andres Aldai, a student at Villareal University.

These criminals had 14 red flags, two Molotov bombs, and Popular Help, a Shining Path support group, pamphlets in their possession. [end recording]

Soldiers, Rebels Die; Common Grave Discovered

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[Text] Ayacucho, Peru, 18 Oct (EFE)—Official sources today reported that two soldiers and 10 alleged terrorists were killed during an armed confrontation that occurred in Ayacucho, the region in which a common grave containing the bodies of seven campesinos was discovered during the past few hours.

The source added that on 17 October at least 100 alleged Shining Path guerrillas attacked a Navy vehicle that was on its way to a garrison in the district of Aina, La Mar province, 220 km east of Ayacucho.

Lieutenant Juan Cordova Arana and Marine Julio Ushinahua died and Non-Commissioned Officer Cesar Tinco and a military nurse were wounded during the two-hour confrontation.

The sources added that the bodies of 10 alleged Shining Path members, all of them young, were later found at the site of the confrontation.

Police sources have indicated that the bodies of seven campesinos, who were apparently killed during an anti-terrorist operation that was carried out by security forces last month, were found in a common grave in the Chicahuaccos Ravine, near Chiclayo.

An Ayacucho judge today ordered the exhumation of the bodies, all of which had bullet wounds in the head. Their hands and feet had been pulled off [arrancadas] and were scattered around the grave.

Police reported that Shining Path terrorists today attacked the localities of Santa Teresa and Luisiana in the Ayacucho hills, where they killed two women and two men who were members of the peasant defense patrols (civilian militia).

The source added that in Santa Teresa the guerrillas kidnapped four young people, including a nine-year old child, apparently recruiting them for the armed struggle.

Meanwhile, the two-day visit to Ayacucho of a Geneva human rights committee concluded today. Members of the committee declined to make remarks to the press.

The members of the committee met with the relatives of detained-missing persons, with Catholic Church authorities, and with military chiefs.

The committee was told that at least 1,900 people from Ayacucho have disappeared following their arrest by security forces.